FBIS DAILY REPORT

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ANDEAN PACT FOREIGN MINISTERS MEETING ENDS

PA162258 Caracas Radio Continente Network in Spanish 2050 GMT 16 Jul 79 PA

[Text] The meeting of the foreign ministers of the Andean Pact countries has ended. The foreign ministers have left for Simon Bolivar Airport from where they will leave for Costa Rica. Euclides Perez gives us more information:

[Begin Perez recording] The Andean foreign ministers, who had been meeting in permanent session for 48 hours, have received an urgent invitation from the Nicaraguan Government of National Reconstruction to culminate the process of cooperation undertaken by the Andean countries for the reestablishment of peace in Nicaragua by personally going to San Jose as quickly as possible. That is what Ecuadorean Foreign Minister Jose Ayala Lasso said a few minutes ago at the conclusion of the foreign ministers meeting here in Caracas.

[Ayala Lasso] We foreign ministers have issued a third communique which states: The Andean foreign ministers, who have been meeting in permanent session for the last 48 hours, have received an urgent invitation from the Nicaraguan Government of National Reconstruction to culminate the cooperation process undertaken by the Andean countries for the reestablishment of peace in Nicaragua by personally going to San Jose as quickly as possible.

[Perez] What is the meaning of the Andean foreign ministers going to San Jose?

[Ayala Lasso] This is a decision which I cannot announce yet, but its significance is evident. The concern we feel for what is happening in Nicaragua is most important. We are prepared to do everything in our power, within the framework of the resolution approved in the OAS, to help solve the problem.

[Unidentified voice] Has the Government of National Reconstruction been recognized yet?

[Ayala Lasso] At present we are not considering this problem but rather the general problem of the Nicaraguan situation.

[Unidentified voice] Would this not be tacit recognition of the Nicaraguan Government of National Reconstruction?

[Ayala Lasso] Our idea is to adopt specific attitudes which will help solve the problems of the Nicaraguan people.

[Question indistinct]

[Ayala Lasso] We hope that the OAS resolution, one of the principal points of which is the immediate termination of the Somozist regime, can be adequately fulfilled in the next few hours.

[Unidentified speaker] Mr Foreign Minister, is it true that you proposed to [name indistinct] the possibility of requesting the isolation and even the blockade of Anastasio Somoza's regime if he does not abandon power as you have requested?

[Ayala Lasso] The second point of the OAS resolution states that the countries should carry out all actions which are individually or collectively within their reach to help fulfill this OAS decision. Therefore, if the first point of the resolution, that is, the termination of the Somozist regime, is not met, we would have to consider other measures to fulfill this.

[Question indistinct]

[Ayala Lasso] We cannot exclude any action. Ecuador has broken relations with Somoza's regime, and I believe that we could adopt other measures which would lead to the goal we are pursuing.

[Perez] These were comments by Ecuadorean Foreign Minister Ayala Lasso at the conclusion of the Andean Pact foreign ministers meeting. The foreign ministers have been meeting in permanent session for 48 hours on the Nicaraguan situation. The Andean countries' foreign ministers will leave from Maiquetta International Airport on board an air force plane for San Jose to meet with the Nicaraguan Government of National Reconstruction.

Message Sent to Somoza

PA162030 Paris AFP in Spanish 2006 GMT 16 Jul 79 PA

[Text] Bogota, 16 Jul (AFP)--Today, the Andean foreign ministers sent a message to President Anastasio Somoza asking him to cooperate in reestablishing constitutionality in Nicaragua, Colombian Foreign Minister Diego Uribe announced from Caracas. In statements to RCN Radio of Bogota, he also said that the five ministers of the Andean Pact will travel today to Central America together with Nicaraguan opposition delegates. However, the Colombian foreign minister declined to say exactly where they were going and said that he was unaware of an eventual departure of President Somoza from Managua.

NICARAGUAN OPPOSITION GROUPS MEET IN CARACAS

PA170311 Buenos Aires LATIN in Spanish 1803 GMT 16 Jul 79 PA

[Text] Caracas, 16 Jul (LATIN)--The summit conference of Nicaraguan groups opposed to Gen Anastasio Somoza's government began here today at the urging of President Luis Herrera Campins. Former Venezuelan foreign minister Aristides Calvani, who will represent Herrera at the conference, opened it this morning with a message from the President and then began to hear the proposals from the almost 50 participants.

Members of the Sandinist National Liberation Front, the Broad Opposition Front, banking and commerce, and the Nicaraguan Catholic church are attending the conference. They came from San Jose, Costa Rica and Miami, Florida. The Government of National Reconstruction has provisional headquarters in San Jose and is composed of five civilians who expect to replace President Somoza, who is fighting against the Sandinist guerrillas.

Herrera said at Miraflores Palace at noon today that relations between his government and the junta are very friendly and cordial. He did not say whether he plans to recognize it and suspend diplomatic relations with Somoza. Referring to the conference of the five Andean Pact foreign ministers in progress here, Herrera told newsmen that for the countries of the Cartagena Agreement any political solution to the Nicaraguan crisis begins with the departure of Somoza and Somozism from the government. Yesterday, Herrera sent a Venezuelan Air Force plane to bring to Caracas members of the Socialist, Conservative and Social Christian parties and the Independent General Confederation of Labor.

HERALD COMMENTS ON BOLIVIAN ELECTIONS

PY161646 Buenos Aires HERALD in English 15 Jul 79 p 10 PY

[Editorial: An Uncertain Future]

[Text] Bolivia's latest exercise in parliamentary democracy has gotten off to a bad start. As was the case a year ago, the counting of the votes cast in the elections to choose a new president and congress are progressing at an astonishingly slow pace, with the main candidates exchanging insinuations of fraud. This means that whatever the final results the losers and their supporters will suspect that the winner benefited from some illicit assistance. Equally disturbing is the way the votes appear to have been distributed, with the front-runner, the leftwinger Hernan Siles Zuazo, getting just over a third and his principal challenger, the moderate rightwinger Victor Paz Estenssoro, just under. The third-place candidate, Hugo Banzer who, like the other two, is a former president, has got about 15 percent of the total according to the latest reports, and could well end up by determining the balance of power thanks to the number of his followers elected to Congress. It will be up to Congress to choose the constitutional president, and the chances of Paz Estenssoro and Siles Zuazo are apparently similar. The outcome, therefore, will derive from the pact-making and vote-trading that is no doubt already in progress.

Bolivian politics, like those of so many other Latin American countries, have frequently been dominated by irrational passions rather than realistic argument, and whoever becomes president will plainly have to satisfy a disparate coalition of attitudes and interests. This will make the task of dealing with an acute economic crisis, and a generalized scepticism about the real nature of the democratic process, even more difficult than would otherwise have been the case. But unless the next government does manage to adopt reasonable policies and win broad acceptance, its life span will surely be limited. There are many forces in Bolivia, not all of them military, which would welcome a breakdown of the elected administration because it would enable them to make another grab for power. The inevitably fragile nature of the next government, and its hastily put together power base, will make it easier for them to set about trying to advance their ambitions.

Even if the next Bolivian government does manage to stay in office for its complete term, the long journey towards democracy will have only just begun. There is far more to democracy than elections, however well managed, every few years. Before it can become a reality a large number of people must fully accept the demands of the democratic process, which include a willingness on the part of the minorities to bow to the expressed will of the majority, and an equal willingness on the part of the majority not to abuse the rights of the minorities in any way. Most of the candidates in the Bolivian elections have, however, managed to convey the impression that a victory would give them prerogatives rather than responsibilities and obligations. This may be merely due to the triumphalist rhetoric apparently inseparable from the democratic process in Latin America, although the actual record of the best placed candidates gives little ground for optimism on this score. Nevertheless, Bolivia has taken the first faltering steps in the right direction. Despite the overwhelming difficulties crowding its path, it is to be hoped that it manages to edge ahead, and does not suffer another failure that will serve merely to discredit the Western-style democracy most of the country's leaders appear genuinely to want.

GOVERNMENT TO GIVE SHELTER TO SOUTH ASIAN REFUGEES

PY131152 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 2200 GMT 13 Jul 79 PY

[Text] Buenos Aires, 13 Jul (TELAM)--The Interior Ministry announced today the decision of the Executive Branch to give shelter to the refugee families from Southeast Asia. A communique issued this afternoon states that "this act is another testimony of the traditional spirit of solidarity of the Argentine people and their government."

The communique states "to fulfill this commitment, all citizens, enterprises, shops and institutions which can do so are urged to give work and lodging to some of these families," and if they do they should report it to their local municipalities. The communique adds that "those who are interested should report in writing their possibilities in this regard, stating the number of persons, the kind of work or job they can offer in accordance with their needs."

It must also be noted that the communique states that in view of the massive concentration of people the Buenos Aires metropolitan area is experiencing, the place where these refugees settle and work should not be within 100 km of the large metropolitan area.

BRAZIL CAUTIONED ON ANTARTIC ASPIRATIONS

PY121409 Paris AFP in Spanish 2127 GMT 11 Jul 79 PY

[Text] Buenos Aires, 11 Jul (AFP)--Citing sources considered reliable, the daily newspaper CONVICCION reported today that Argentina "will not tolerate Brazil to extend its aspirations to the Antarctic," given the possibility of eventual Brazilian exploration in that region.

The newspaper of central rightist tendencies which reflects opinions of the Argentine Navy, stated that relations between Argentina and Brazil "would experience irreparable damage" were the new Brazilian Government to heed those who urge expansion toward the Antarctic. The position of "Brazilian sectors is emerging now that events in Nicaragua are posing the need for urgent, continental solidarity and Argentine-Brazilian negotiations are pending on the use of hydroelectricity generated on the Parana River," CONVICCION added.

The newspaper also admitted the possibility that Argentina and Brazil may extend their cooperation plans toward polar investigations with the condition that Brazilian officials "sign a paper, beforehand, recognizing Argentine sovereignty in that area."

SALDIVAR DESCRIBES YACYRETA NEGOTIATIONS AS CORDIAL

PY132348 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 1809 GMT 13 Jul 79 PY

[Text] Buenos Aires, 13 Jul (TELAM)--"We are working within a cordial atmosphere with our eyes set on the future. We hope both parties will achieve an understanding on the Yacyreta issue." Paraguayan Senator Carlos Saldivar made this statement today at about 1430 as he was leaving the Yacyreta Binational Enterprise Building where he had attended a meeting which started at 1000. He added that a recess was called to put things in order while the technicians and economists continued studying the basic issues, which are the design and the compensations. Saldivar reported that the next meeting will be held in Asuncion next week.

SCIENTISTS, MINISTERS DISCUSS NATION'S NUCLEAR ENERGY, OIL PLANS

Nuclear Cooperation 'Model' Is Ready

PY170347 Sao Paulo Radio Bandeirantes Network in Portuguese 0230 GMT 17 Jul 79 PY

[Text] Brasilia--Foreign Minister Saraiva Guerreiro has stated here that the Brazilian Government already prepared a model of nuclear cooperation with developing countries. He said he is determined to discuss this issue during the visit he will make to Venezuela from 25-27 July. To open the first meeting of the Brazilian-Venezuelan coordinating commission.

Although the purpose of his visit is diplomatic-political, the foreign minister will also hold talks on petroleum. In view of its need to diversify its sources of petroleum, the minister concedes, Brazil may increase its import of Venezuelan petroleum. He noted that both officials of the Brazilian Petroleum Corporation and Mines and Energy Minister Cesar Cals have been maintaining contacts to this effect for some time but declined to specify the possible increase in Brazilian petroleum imports.

Scientists Oppose Nuclear Program

PY170243 Rio de Janeiro JORNAL DO BRASIL in Portuguese 15 Jul 79 p 20 PY

[By Egisio Serpa and Jose Neumanne Pinto]

[Excerpt] Fortaleza, Ceara--At a roundtab[illegible]ld yesterday as part of the 31st annual meeting of the Brazilian Society for the Prog[illegible]ss of Science, Brazilian scientists debated the subject "Nuclear Energy: Current Dilemma." The scientists who participated strongly criticized the Brazilian-FRG nuclear agreement as being detrimental to the national interests. The speakers were Professors Rogerio Cezar de Cerqueira Leite of the University of Campinas, Sao Paulo; Mario Schemberg of the University of Sao Paulo; and Luis Pinguelli Rosa of the Federal University of Rio de Janeiro.

Physicist Pinguelli Rosa asked that the Brazilian-FRG nuclear agreement be radically reviewed, imposing new conditions considering that Brazil is at this time the only possible buyer of FRG reactors. He based this request on a report prepared by Planning Minister Mario Henrique Simonsen, affirming that "as can be seen, the government has already discarded nuclear energy for the generation of electricity."

Professor Cerqueira Leite strongly attacked the agreement as being uneconomical. He defended the development of a Brazilian technology "for which a continuous research program is necessary." He stated that there is no reason of an economic nature of justify the nuclear program, since Brazil's hydroelectric reserves "are sufficient for at least 50 years."

Physicist Schemberg, who was separated from the University of Sao Paulo through Institutional Act No 5 and who is about to be granted amnesty, blamed "the distorted Brazilian policy during the period of the so-called Brazilian miracle" for the current energy crisis in the country. He, however, expressed hope for the future.

Talking about the possibilities of national industry participation in the nuclear program, Professor Pinguelli Rosa observed: "We have the leverage because the FRG does not have another customer for its reactors. We only failed to impose our conditions because we owe $40 billion (1 trillion cruzeiros) to the industrialized world and so we are forced to follow a policy which is good for our creditors, not for us."

Closer Ties With Oil Suppliers

PY170011 Rio de Janeiro JORNAL DO BRAZIL in Portuguese 14 Jul 79 p 17 PY

[Text] In a lecture at the Superior War College, Foreign Minister Saraiva Guerreiro said yesterday that "Brazil will maintain closer relations with those countries which have guaranteed us supply at critical moments in the international oil market, thus sparing our country from resorting to the free oil market."

Foreign Minister Saraiva Guerreiro said that the policy of democratic liberalization is making negotiations with other countries easier for Itamaraty, adding that "the Foreign Ministry believes that the country's political liberalization will be helpful to its foreign policy, and we are prepared to accept debates with the certainty that our foreign policy will not be disturbed." Without making any direct references, the foreign minister affirmed that Itamaraty will avoid "unnecessary" recriminations and will promote the political conditions, "whether in Latin America, Africa, Asia or the Middle East, for the utilization of the most varied sources of energy, while maintaining the commercial characteristics of oil purchase operations."

The foreign minister criticized the industrialized countries on several occasions and said that they have the responsibility for influencing the course of the world economy, "which is currently affected by other problems also, such as inflation and monetary imbalance."

Minister Saraiva Guerreiro stressed that Brazil "will seek the best possible conditions for supply, considering its position as the largest oil importer among the developing countries, as well as a greater expansion of its foreign trade so as to reduce expenditures for oil imports."

The minister complained about the insensitivity of the developed countries toward the problems of the developing countries, pointing out that no measure to benefit the less-developed countries was taken at the recent meeting of industrialized countries' leaders in Tokyo. He then added that, while proclaiming that the energy problems will only be solved through "shared responsibility and partnership," the rich countries implicitly reject the reality of the imbalance in North-South relations.

Alcohol, Coal Transport Study

PY120203 Brasilia Domestic Service in Portuguese 2200 GMT 11 Jul 79 PY

[Text] During a meeting with President Figueiredo this afternoon, Transport Minister Eliceu Rezende told the president that his ministry has completed studies on the transport of anhydrous and hydrous alcohol. The study was made taking into consideration the scope of the national alcohol program, the areas of production and the areas of consumption. He also told the president about another study regarding coal to be transported from the southern to the southeastern region of the country. This study will provide for the installation of port facilities in Rio Grande do Sul, expansion of the (Imbituba) port installations, and completion of the Sepetiba and Tubarao terminals. The railroad program will provide for the transport of coal from the mining sites to the loading ports, and from the unloading ports to the consumption sites.

CREATION OF LATIN AMERICAN PARTIES CONFEDERATION ANNOUNCED

PY141942 Paris AFP in Spanish 1443 GMT 14 Jul 79 PY

[Text] Rio de Janeiro, 14 Jul (AFP)--JORNAL DO BRAZIL announced here today that an international confederation of Latin American democratic parties will be created in Curitiba (Parana State) on 14 and 15 August. The decision hold this meeting was made by the Brazilian Democratic Movement (MDB) and Paraguayan opposition leaders in Asuncion early this morning.

The objective of this new confederation will be to fight for the restoration of the state of law in Latin American countries which are subjected to arbitrariness, and to follow closely abuses of power and violations of human rights in Latin America.

PERUVIAN LEGISLATOR HUGO BLANCO DETAINED, RELEASED

PY131642 Buenos Aires LATIN in Spanish 1422 GMT 13 Jul 79 PY

[Text] Rio de Janeiro, 13 Jul (LATIN)--Airport officials reported today that police yesterday detained the Peruvian socialist legislator, Hugo Blanco, just after his arrival at this city's airport.

Blanco was detained for 10 hours because his name is included in a list which terms him as persona non grata, the sources added. He was released after queries had been made with government officials in Brasilia. Blanco then left for Porto Alegre, in southern Brazil, where he will give a lecture on democracy to members of the opposition party, the Brazilian Democratic Movement.

Deputies' Statements

PY132115 Porto Alegre Radio Gaucha in Portuguese 1545 GMT 13 Jul 79 PY

[Text] The Peruvian socialist deputies, Hugo Blanco and Enrique Fernandez, left this morning for Sao Paulo from where they will travel to Peru.

Just before his departure, Blanco said that Brazil's situation is the same as that of all other Latin American countries: They are experiencing an economic and political crisis imposed by U.S. imperialism. Regarding the Peruvian Constituent Assembly, the deputy said that the assembly is supporting the dictatorship's attempt at keeping the people under the domination of the bourgeoisie and therefore the progress of the popular movements has obliged the military to try and turn the assembly into a farce through detentions, repression and the exile of individuals. The deputies indicated that it was their belief that this is the reason why military regimes are entering a stage of complete putrefaction as they are now not in a condition to maintain an economy which will look after the interests of the people.

UK ASSISTANT FOREIGN SECRETARY SCHEDULES VISIT

PY162201 Sao Paulo O ESTADO DE SAO PAULO in Portuguese 14 Jul 79 p 5 PY

[Text] Itamaraty confirmed yesterday in Brasilia that Nicholas Ridley, British assistant foreign secretary, will visit Brazil from 27-31 July to establish contacts with several cabinet ministers, including Foreign Minister Saraiva Guerreiro.

According to communiques from the Foreign Ministries of the two countries, Ridley's visit will not be official, but part of a get-acquainted trip to Latin America which is traditionally made by the second man in the Foreign Office whenever a new government takes office in Great Britain. This will be the first trip to Latin America by a secretary of the Conservative Government of Margaret Thatcher.

The assistant secretary will arrive in Rio de Janeiro on 27 July, and will then go to Brasilia on 29 July. He will also visit Argentina, Mexico, Venezuela and the Malvinas Islands. In the Malvinas Islands, Ridley will meet with representatives of that British territory which is claimed by Argentina. The British-Argentine dispute over this territory has been dragging on for many years since British Governments have systematically refused to transfer the sovereignty of the archipelago without the prior consent of the population.

FOREIGN AMBASSADORS SEE NUCLEAR ENERGY AS ALTERNATIVE TO OIL

PY170144 Rio de Janeiro JOURNAL DO BRASIL in Portuguese 15 Jul 79 p 26 PY

[Text] Brasilia--"Nuclear energy is the most effective and rapid solution yet found for industrialized countries, which are the world's largest oil consumers, to confront the current energy crisis." This statement was made by one of the European diplomats consulted yesterday regarding the alternatives being sought by their governments to prevent a serious economic recession. Avoiding any reference to the Brazilian situation, a diplomat said, however, that "Brazil is in a privileged position because it still has a huge untapped hydroelectric potential and, as an agricultural producer, it can obtain sufficient foreign exchange to cover expenditures for oil imports."

The diplomats also pointed out that nuclear energy over the short term can gradually replace oil imports because, with the constant price increases by OPEC member countries and the almost unanimous decision by oil producing countries not to raise their production, crude oil will become an unviable energy source in the next few years.

Jean Beliard, French ambassador to Brazil, said that "the world energy situation is not good and will grow worse." He mentioned that France initiated its nuclear program some years ago and that President Giscard d'Estaing's priority objective is to accelerate the expansion of the nation's nuclear complex, trying to attain a production of 70 percent of consumed electricity by means of nuclear reactors by 1992.

The Japanese and Spanish governments have also decided to accelerate research in the nuclear sector. According to the Spanish ambassador to Brazil, Francisco Javier Vallaure, "the Spanish nuclear program will proceed normally despite the protests of politicians and ecologists, because nuclear energy is a necessity and the country has to have it."

Koichi Obata, energy expert at the Japanese Embassy in Brazil, affirmed: "Japan has no other solution than nuclear energy, because it has no oil, coal or natural gas. In this situation, atomic energy is the most important alternative for replacing oil imports gradually."

According to Obata, "The Japanese Government has faced strong opposition to its nuclear program, causing an important delay in the manufacture of new reactors." But despite domestic protests, Japan already has 20 reactors in full operation, producing 10 percent of the electric energy consumed in the country. The Japanese Government hopes to increase that production to 16 percent with the installation of new nuclear reactors by 1985.

Spanish Ambassador Vallaure said optimistically that, in his opinion, "nuclear risks are minute." He then added: "Many protests against nuclear reactor installations stem from political problems or from public misinformation about the question," noting that current oil prices have made nuclear energy comparatively inexpensive and accessible.

The Spanish nuclear program should be approved by the parliament in September, but Spain already has three nuclear plants in full operation. Plans call for the construction of 12 nuclear reactors, five of which will be producing electric energy beginning in 1981.

In France, for instance, the government has decided to resume exploitation of coal mines on the country's northern region which had been abandoned because they were uneconomical. According to French Ambassador Beliard, "The rising cost of oil made possible the resumption of coal exploitation in France and the objective is to attempt gasification of the best-quality coal."

In addition to the unpopular measures already adopted by the French economic authorities--lower highway speed limits and house heating set at 19 degrees centigrade--to reduce energy consumption, the French Government has accelerated its solar energy program.

MOZAMBICAN DELEGATION SEEKS CLOSER RELATIONS

PY161229 Sao Paulo Radio Bandeirantes Network in Portuguese 1000 GMT 16 Jul 79 PY

[Text] The Mozambican trade delegation which arrived yesterday in Brasilia will meet today with the Minister of Finance Karlos Rischbieter, Minister of Planning Mario Henrique Simonsen, and Minister of Mines and Energy Cesar Cals.

The Mozambican delegation is headed by the national economic director of the Mozambican Foreign Trade Ministry. The main objectives of this delegation are to purchase trucks and tractors in our country and try to sell coal and tea, in addition to intensifying trade and diplomatic relations between Mozambique and Brazil.

Delegation Continues Visit

PY171255 Sao Paulo Radio Bandeirantes Network in Portuguese 1000 GMT 17 Jul 79 PY

[Text] The head of the Mozambique delegation, Vice Minister (Antonio Augusto Almeida Matos), had said in Itamaraty that his country wants to tighten political and economic ties with Brazil. He added that one of the objectives of his visit to Brazil is to achieve a line of credit from the Bank of Brazil to import Brazilian products and technology. Almeida Matos listed the following Brazilian products to be imported: tractors, fishing boats, communications [as heard], and vehicles, especially buses and trucks. Mozambique would in exchange sell to Brazil tea and coal, main staples of the Mozambique economy.

MDB LEADER FORBIDDEN TO VISIT POLITICAL PRISONERS

PY170116 Rio de Janeiro JORNAL DO BRASIL in Portuguese 15 Jul 79 p 5 PY

[Excerpt] Sao Paulo--The leader of the Brazilian Democratic Movement, deputy Freitas Nobre, was not allowed to enter the Barro Branco Prison yesterday to visit the 12 political prisoners, by order of acting judge auditor of the second auditor's office of the Second Military Justice Court, Waldir Silveira Mello. The order was issued on 13 July after the commander of the prison, Capt Andre Lelcis informed the judge that Deputy Freitas Nobre intended to visit political prisoners over the weekend.

BRIEFS

ENERGY SAVING PLAN--Governor Paulo Maluf convened his secretariat today to pass a four-pronged energy-saving program for the state of Sao Paulo: 1) The state will henceforth only acquire alcohol-powered vehicles; 2) All state-owned vehicles will have their motors converted to run on alcohol within 6 months; 3) Provision of funds for the Sao Paulo Technological Research Institute for oil prospecting in the state; and 4) Substitution of alcohol-powered engines in city-owned buses. [Sao Paulo Radio Bandeirantes in Portuguese 0230 GMT 12 Jul 79 PY]

URUGUAYAN FOREIGN MINISTER COMMENTS ON MILITARY REGIMES

PY170125 Paris AFP in Spanish 2024 GMT 16 Jul 79 PY

[Text] Santiago, Chile, 16 Jul (AFP)--Uruguayan Foreign Minister Adolfo Folle said today that the military regimes governing Chile and Uruguay are the result of a "new element" in Latin America.

Folle emphasized that "in Chile and Uruguay, freedom was taken advantage of, and foreign ideologies interfered in the two countries." The Uruguayan foreign minister is making a 5-day visit to Chile. He also said that "we had to implement measures which in reality the people of Chile and Uruguay are now thankful for." The Uruguayan foreign minister said that "false ideologies previously prevailed," adding, "I see the return of democracy on the continent with great optimism."

Regarding the internal Uruguayan political process, he said that both the president and the members of the government junta have stated that the country's political program will be "strictly" carried out.

MIR MEMBERS DETAINED IN THREE CITIES

PY131630 Paris AFP in Spanish 1600 GMT 13 Jul 79 PY

[Text] Concepcion, Chile, 13 Jul (AFP)--It was reported here today that five members of the proscribed Chilean Movement of the Revolutionary Left (MIR) had been detained by security agents. The five leftists had been detained in the cities of Concepcion, Coronel and Lota, 550 km south of Santiago de Chile. Three of them were identified: Eduardo Saldia, Samuel Aedo and Tito Carrillo. The detainees had been charged with being linked to 11 other members of MIR who were detained recently and who were in turn linked to two other members who died on 23 June when a bomb they were carrying exploded.

TWO BOMBS EXPLODE IN SANTIAGO; MIR BLAMED

PY170114 Buenos Aires LATIN in Spanish 1632 GMT 16 Jul 79 PY

[Text] Santiago, 16 Jul (AFP)--Two powerful bombs exploded today in the eastern side of this capital, causing damage and alarm among the people, it was reported here. The first bomb caused damage to the office of the Chilean Mortgage Bank research department. The other bomb exploded at a private house, whose owners were not identified. Approximately 40 bombs have exploded in different parts of the country in the past 4 months, and the military government has blamed the Movement of the Revolutionary Left (MIR) for these attacks.

MIRISTS SEEK ASYLUM AT PANAMANIAN EMBASSY

PY162356 Paris AFP in Spanish 2256 GMT 16 Jul 79 PY

[Text] Santiago, Chile, 16 Jul--Two activists of the outlawed Movement of the Revolutionary Left (MIR) have sought asylum in the Panamanian Embassy, it was reported here today. The two MIR leaders' admission to the embassy occurred last week, it was indicated here. According to information from diplomatic sources, the MIRists were identified as Gaston Munoz Briones, member of the MIR Central Committee, and Gloria Elgueta Pinto, also a leader of the subversive movement.

RANSOM SET FOR BOLIVIAN CONSUL'S DAUGHTER

PA151923 Paris AFP in Spanish 1829 GMT 15 Jul 79 PA

[Text] Medellin, Colombia, 15 Jul (AFP)--It was learned today that 20 million pesos (approximately $500,000) is the ransom being demanded for the release of Carolina Villegas Londono, daughter of the honorary Bolivian consul here. According to unofficial sources, the kidnapers informed the girl's family of their demands. Meanwhile, antiextorsion and antikidnaping command members continue searching for the kidnap victim in Antioquia Department.

GOVERNMENT DECREES 30-PERCENT FUEL PRICE INCREASE

PA140351 Paris AFP in Spanish 0325 GMT 14 Jul 79 PA

[Text] Bogota, 13 Jul (AFP)--The Colombian Government tonight decreed a 30-percent increase in the price of fuel. It also authorized increases of 5.5 and 17 percent in urban transportation service fares pending on the type of vehicle involved.

SEA LIMIT TALKS TO BE INITIATED WITH VENEZUELA

PA140257 Bogota Cadena Radial Super in Spanish 0000 GMT 14 Jul 79 PA

[Text] Bogota--It has been agreed to create a six-member delegation that will initiate negotiations on delimiting the sea area between Colombia and Venezuela. This was decided at a preliminary meeting held by a mixed Colombian-Venezuelan delegation. The agreement was reached in Cartegena following 3 days of negotiations. The delegation that participated in the preliminary meeting will meet again within 10 days in the Carabayeda Hotel near the Venezuelan city of La Guajira.

AIR FORCE DOWNS DRUG PLANE, 2 ARRESTED

PA141612 Paris AFP in Spanish 1141 GMT 14 Jul 79 PA

[Text] Bogota, 14 Jul (AFP)--The Defense Ministry has reported here that the Air Force shot down a plane, presumably of U.S. registry, used by drug traffickers on Friday, in the country's northern region. The craft, a Beechcraft CG-45, had taken off from a clandestine airstrip near Molineros, Atlantico Department (some 1,000 km from Bogota), loaded with marihuana when it was discovered by an Air Force cargo plane.

The cargo plane notified its base in the north and the base dispatched a T-33. When the CG-45 disobeyed the T-33's order to land immediately and instead headed for the sea, the military plane fired a rocket at it and downed it. The plane's two occupants were later seen in a rubber boat. A helicopter and a boat were dispatched to arrest them. Since the beginning of the year, Colombian territory has been under strict surveillance by the three branches of the armed forces to fight drug triffickers, who have established one of their principal drug production and distribution centers here.

ROYO LETTER TO CARTER CRITICIZES MURPHY BILL

PA161916 Panama City STAR AND HERALD in English pp 1, 5 16 Jul 79 PA

[Text] Stressing that the United States should not lose sight of the fact that the new Panama Canal Treaties are based on the sovereignty of the Republic of Panama, which as such grants concessions to the United States, President Aristides Royo yesterday pinpointed a series of dispositions of a bill approved by the U.S. House of Representatives which contradict the 1977 treaties between both countries.

In a lengthy letter to President Carter, Royo told the U.S. chief executive that the rights of the U.S. "should not be interpreted extensively but rather restrictively," taking into account that the U.S. "has not more right in Panamma than that conferred in the treaties".

U.S. jurisdiction in Panama "ends forever" effective Oct. 1, and it can only act in accordance with a correct interpretation of the treaties, Royo told Carter.

As a preamble to listing a series of contradictory articles of the bill, Royo referred to his visit in Washington May 9-11, when he detailed the reasons why his government felt that HR-III, proposed by Sen. John Murphy (D-NY) and recently approved by the House of Representatives, "did not harmonize with the letter and the spirit of the Torrijos-Carter treaties".

He told Carter he still held "vividly in mind" the sincerity of his words when the U.S. President promised the Panamanian people that he would work hard at achieving that the final text of the law approved by Congress "would adhere faithfully" to the pact.

"I expect that with the way open in the Senate and in the conference committee, the law that is approved could restore a state of calmness among the Panamanian citizenry, who have observed with deep concern an attempt to introduce into dispositions that would make the treaties vulnerable," Royo said. [sentence as published]

"Before commenting on the varied dispositions that I consider violations of the pact, it becomes necessary to emphasize that what commits both nations are the treaties. Neither Panama, nor the United States, can alter the agreement by means of legislative actions. Panama, on its part, will adhere exclusively to the honor of the pact in compliance with its duties and in exercising its rights.

"The internal legislation of the U.S. is not considered a source of authority over the Republic of Panama, as is the case of the United States with laws enacted by the Panama Assembly", Royo pointed out.

Referring to Article 3 of the Murphy bill, he said that while the treaties confer on the United States the right to operate under the Canal Zone code, but which would not apply on matters over which the U.S. has no jurisdiction in conformity with the "Panama Canal Agreements", Article XI (1) of the treaty is precise and clear on the issue.

The article, he said stipulated that"...the laws of the Republic of Panama will apply in the areas placed under the disposal of the United States for its use in accordance with the treaty".

Royo pointed out further that Article II establishes a transition period of 30 months, during which the laws of the United States would apply concurrently with those of the Republic of Panama. "In other words the Canal Zone code only takes effect until the end of the 30-month period agreed upon, and only in a manner that would not contradict the treaty".

Royo also hit Articles 101 and 102 of the Murphy bill.

He said that while these articles harmonized with Article 3 of the treaty, in that the Panama Canal Commission would operate under a board of directors, Article 101 places the commission under the direction of the secretary of defense.

"The maximum authority over the commission is the board of directors, and placing the commission under any other U.S. official is to ignore treaty provisions", Royo told Carter.

Article 2 also establishes that each member of the board will remain at his post at the discretion of the President of the United States. Royo said this was not correct insofar as the Panamanian directors were concerned.

Article 3 of the treaty stipulates that in the case of removal from the board of any Panamanian member on the initiative of the U.S., both sides should hold consultations aimed at reaching an accord on said removal..." Royo clarified.

The Panamanian president also outlined other violations related to the functions of the Canal Commission [found] in several other articles of the Murphy bill.

Royo also rejected an article in the bill which he said would call for negotiations for the maintenance of U.S. troops in Panama after the expiration of the treaty.

He referred to Article 5 of the Neutrality Treaty which specified:

"At the termination of the treaty on the Panama Canal only the Republic of Panama will operate the canal and maintain its military forces, defense vases and installations within the national territory". The president also described as discriminatory articles providing for additional payments only to U.S. citizens who will lose their commissary privileges and use of postal service, and educational benefits for U.S.-citizen students travelling to the U.S.

"Nationality should not be taken into account," as established in Article 10 of the treaty.

Royo also scored articles of the bill that had to do with a $10 million increment, and restricting the Canal Commission to spend funds not approved by law.

An Article-250 (G)--calling for all payments to Panama be subject to a decision by the President and Congress, and could be affected by Panama's intervention in the internal affairs of another nation, was described as "an intervention in the internal affairs of Panama" by the U.S.

"This article places the United States in the censurable position of both judge and accuser, which is overwhelmingly unjust and out of all consideration".

Following are the articles of the Murphy bill that Panama "objects to as inconsistent or violatory of the spirit and the letter of the treaties".

Article 3.- This refers to applicable legislation. Several clauses are listed among the objectionable ones.

Article 101.- This established the Panama Canal Commission under the general supervision and direction of the secretary of defense.

Article 102.- Set up a supervisory board of no less than five U.S. citizens, the rest Panamanian, also under the supervision of the U.S. secretary of defense. Several clauses of the article are listed.

Article 103.- The administrator will be appointed by the U.S. President with the advice and consent of the Senate.

Article 104.- Deputy administrator and chief engineer, also designated by the U.S. President.

Article 106.- Joint Commission on the Environment with an equal number of U.S. and Panamanian citizens. Clauses B, C, D and E are listed.

Article 107.- Refers to travel expenses for U.S. members of the Canal Commission.

Article 108.- U.S. Armed Forces control of the Panama Canal in times of war.

Article 111.- Refers to the creation of the Office of Ombudsman for Matters of Public Interest. Articles B, C, D,and E are listed.

Article 112.- Refers to congressional opinion that the President of the United States should negotiate the presence of the U.S. Armed Forces in Panama after the expiration of the 1977 treaty.

Article 121.- Refers to appointments, salaries and duties.

Article 125.- Adjustment of cost of living allotments.

Article 126.- Educational travel benefits. Clauses 1 and 2 are listed.

Article 153.- Refers to application of the provisions of the treaty in matters of recruitment, examination and the creation of an office in the Canal Commission to replace the Central Examination Office. Clauses A, B, C, 1, 2, 3 and C are listed.

Article 209.- Refers to compensation for certain old (canal) employees. Clauses A, B, C and E and subclauses 1, 2 and 3 of Clause D are listed.

Article 225.- Labor-management relations. Clauses A (subclauses 1 and 2) and B are listed.

Article 232.- Refers to funds of the Panama Canal Company and the commission. Specifies that no funds will be appropriated for the Canal Commission, nor can the commission acquire any debts, or make any payments unless they are specifically authorized and appropriated by law.

Article 250.- Payments to Panama. Establishes monthly payments to Panama by the Commission as provided in the 1977 treaty. Clauses A, B, C, D, E, F and G are listed. The latter provides that no payments will be made if the U.S. President or Congress by means of a joint resolution determine that Panama is interfering in the internal affairs of another state, either directly or indirectly, until such interference ceases.

Article 253.- Provides authority to assure the protection of U.S. taxpayers, minimum canal tolls and consumers. Clause B and subclauses 1 and 2 are listed.

Article 297.- Refers to the investigation of accidents or any damage giving to a claim. Subclauses 1 and 2 are listed.

Article 298.- Board of local inspectors. Clause A (subclauses 1 and 2) and B are listed.

Article 371.- Assets and liabilities of the present Panama Canal Company.

Article 372.- Transfer and exchange of service between agencies. Clauses A, B, C and D are listed.

Article 373.- Disposition of U.S. property. This article provides that no U.S. property located in Panama can be disposed of, except in conformity with laws promulgated by Congress.

Article 374.- Refers to the transfer of properties to Panama, spells out what can be transferred or not to Panama.

Article 411.- Establishes procedure for admeasurement and setting of tolls. Clauses A, (subclauses 1 and 2) and B are listed.

Article 412.- Bases for the setting of tolls. Clauses C, D and E are listed.

Article 701.- Presidential authority (U.S.) gives the U.S. President authority to amend from time to time the rules regarding the use of airships, possession and use of alcoholic beverages, exclusion and removal of persons and health and sanitation. Subclauses 1, 2, 3, and 4 are listed.

Article 702.- Authority of the Canal Commission. Subclauses 1 through 7 are listed.

Article 1331.- Operating regulations. Subclauses 1 through 5 are listed.

LEGISLATORS TO DISCUSS LAWS ON CANAL TREATIES

PA132214 Panama City LA REPUBLICA in Spanish 12 Jul 79 p 4-A PA

[Editorial]

[Text] After a lengthy working session of the executive and legislative branches which was attended by the president of the republic and top state officials, an agreement was reached on the legal procedure to be followed to approve Panamanian bills which will complement the Torrijos-Carter treaties. Official reports said that the meeting discussed final approval by the Popular Power of a set of 26 important bills for the orderly entrance of Panama and its people into the Canal area. This is an act of sovereignty and recovery of territory which has been isolated from the rest of the nation for three-quarters of a century.

To accomplish this, the executive branch has decided to call special sessions of the National Legislative Council and, even though we were not given any more details regarding the scope of these bills, it has been learned that they concern the political-administrative policies of Canal [Zone] land, labor and health problems, and others.

The measure adopted by the executive branch seems to be most prudent and conforms precisely to the current constitution. Thus, the Canal Treaties will be complemented through direct action by the Panamanian Government, which is starting to make effective use of its sovereign rights over that part of the national territory. The members of the National Legislation Council must be aware of the historic responsibility of this moment. The legislators should take their role very seriously since approval of the bills, following the necessary analysis, is essential for the government of Panama to expeditiously begin its projects and programs in order to adminster and exploit the existing installations and natural resources that will revert to the national patrimony. The legislators should also bear in mind that those lands are fundamental to the nation's total development and that therefore their conservation as part of our national heritage is of vital importance. The popular power is about to take its first steps to carry out the Torrijos-Carter treaties and, as we said before, this historic moment demands seriousness and responsibility.

OFFICIALS SAY CANAL ZONE TO BECOME TWO CORREGIMIENTOS

PA132104 Panama City LA REPUBLICA in Spanish 12 Jul 79 p 1 PA

[By Jaime Enrique Beitia]

[Text] The possibility of converting the Canal Zone into a new province was ruled out with the announcement of a draft law which is being considered by the executive branch and which calls for the division of that territory into two corregimientos--Ancon on the Pacific and Cristobal on the Atlantic Coast. Dr Carlos A. Barsallo, president of the Canal Affairs Committee of the National Legislation Council, told LA REPUBLICA in an interview this morning that the draft law provides for the corregimiento of Ancon to be part of the district of Panama, while Cristobal corregimiento will be part of the district of Colon.

The draft law was prepared and approved by the highest executives of the Canal Authority and by the executive branch, but has not yet been sent to the National Legislation Council. The proposal will have to be discussed and approved by the National Assembly of Corregimiento Representatives, which will soon hold a special meeting to discuss: political and administrative matters of that sector, the area's political division, and the draft law which provides for revocation of Article 20 of Cabinet Decree No 2 of 13 January 1970. The latter contains other provisions regarding the corregimientos of Cristobal and Ancon that will be created by the previously mentioned law. After the National Assembly of Corregimiento Representatives approves, amends or rejects the draft law, the National Legislation Council will have to discuss other laws required for the implementation of the Torrijos-Carter treaties.

Sources told our reporters that the new political division of the Canal Zone could lead to differences of opinion within the assembly because the district of Arraijan is strongly lobbying for the return of a part of the Canal Zone which in past eras was a part of that district.

COSTA RICA

ANDEAN FOREIGN MINISTERS ARRIVE IN SAN JOSE

PA171057 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 0643 GMT 17 Jul 79 PA

[Excerpt] San Jose, 17 July (ACAN-EFE)--The foreign ministers of the Andean Pact countries, Venezuela, Ecuador, Bolivia, Peru and Columbia, arrived in San Jose at dawn today to meet with the junta of the Government of National Reconstruction of Nicaragua. Colombian Foreign Minister Diego Uribe, Venezuelan Foreign Minister Jose Alberto Zambrano, Bolivian Foreign Minister Jorge Escobar, Ecuadorean Foreign Minister Jose Ayala and Peruvian Foreign Minister Carlos Garcia arrived at Juan Santamaria International Airport in the outskirts of San Jose aboard a Venezuelan Air Force plane. They were met by Costa Rican Foreign Minister Rafael Angel Calderon Fournier. Asked about the plan they were bringing to solve the Nicaraguan conflict, Colombian Foreign Minister Uribe said that they are bringing great good will to cooperate in the peaceful transition of power in Nicaragua. He announced that they will meet immediately with the Nicaraguan opposition government proclaimed by the Sandinist National Liberation Front (FSLN) on 16 June. It has been learned that the five ministers will accompany the Nicaraguan junta on its return to Nicaragua during the next few hours.

SHOTS FIRED AT U.S. AMBASSADOR'S RESIDENCE

PA162035 San Jose Radio Reloj in Spanish 1730 GMT 16 Jul 79 PA

[Text] Last night, several shots were fired at the residence of U.S. Ambassador Marvin Weissman by unidentified individuals in an automobile. Here is an official communique on the incident read by press and information officer Tony Perez:

Four or five shots were fired at the residence of U.S. Ambassador Marvin Weissamn. One of the bullets went through the lower part of the window in the bedroom of the ambassador's daughter, hitting the opposite wall and ricocheting to the other side of the room. A second shot hit the lamp at the front entrance. Another bullet, or the same one, hit a wall next to the entrance. Fortunately, the ambassador's wife and children are vacationing in the United States. (? sentries) at the entrance said that the four bullets had been fired from a moving vehicle. Radio patrol cars responded in a matter of minutes and the ambassador...Colonel (Brealy) [apparently corrects himself], the chief of the radio patrol division, arrived personally 20 minutes after the incident.

FSLN TURNS OVER THREE GUERRILLAS ACCUSED OF MURDER

PA161926 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1619 GMT 16 Jul 79 PA

[Text] San Jose, 16 July (ACAN-EFE)--The three presumed killers of a young Nicaraguan woman murdered by guerrillas last week were turned over to Costa Rican authorities by the Sandinist National Liberation Front (FSLN) High Command Saturday night. The killing of Maria Lourdes Garcia de Pastora sparked a wave of indignation in the city of Liberia, capital of the province (department) of Guanacaste, on the Nicaraguan border. Newspaper reports stated that a group of Sandinists who were drinking in a Liberia hotel drew straws to kill Mrs Pastora after a female employee at the inn accused her of being a Nicaraguan Government spy.

"Chino" and "Pelon," along with another rebel, were turned over to a Costa Rican legal investigation organization after a rebel court had tried them and found them guilty. A communique issued by the judiciary police states that the Sandinist Front "won a carnation for its buttonhole" since it proved its respect for our laws and our courts. It also states that the homicide had been perpetrated by a former Vietnam veteran, whose name was not revealed, although he was unofficially named as "Gringo," apparently a U.S. citizen fighting with the Nicaraguan guerrillas.

EL SALVADOR

OPPOSITION PAPER LA CRONICA DESTROYED BY FIRE

PA161438 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1623 GMT 15 Jul 79 PA

[Text] San Salvador, 15 July (ACAN-EFE)--Last night, a fire destroyed the offices of the Salvadoran opposition newspaper LA CRONICA, the people's daily, which is owned by newsman Napoleon Gonzalez. The fire destroyed papers and most of the equipment. The cause of the fire has not been established. LA CRONICA is the only newspaper that openly attacks the government and publishes many paid notices by leftist organizations. One month ago, Gonzalez, the paper's director, stated that he had received several death threats.

GUATEMALA

VICE PRESIDENT ASKS GOVERNMENT TO SUPPORT NICARAGUAN JUNTA

PA161849 Paris AFP in Spanish 1811 GMT 16 Jul 79 PA

[Text] Guatemala City, 16 July (AFP)--Francisco Villagran Kramer, vice president of Guatemala, appealed here today to the Guatemalan Government to cooperate with the new Nicaraguan government. In a letter addressed to President Romeo Lucas which was made public by Villagran Kramer, the vice president stated that the time has come for the Guatemalan Government to study in its true dimension the solution agreed upon and to advise the junta of the Government of National Reconstruction of Nicaragua of its acceptance of the five points announced. The Guatemalan vice president stressed the need for a meeting of Central American presidents at which they could submit and evaluate ideas which will accelerate the reconstruction of Nicaragua and strengthen the democratic basis of its new government.

HONDURAS

PAPER REPORTS NICARAGUAN AIRSPACE VIOLATIONS

PA161925 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1604 GMT 16 Jul 79 PA

[Text] Tegucigalpa, 16 July (ACAN-EFE)--The newspaper TRIBUNA charged today that Nicaraguan Air Force planes penetrated some 15 km into Honduran airspace yesterday. The newspaper charges that the planes violated Honduran airspace many times during bombing and machine-gun attacks against Sandinist positions in northern Nicaragua. Specifically, the attacks took place over Somotillo and Villanueva, two towns under Sandinist control a few kilometers from Honduran territory. Reports from the southern zone state that several wounded persons had been taken to Honduran hospitals, where efforts are being made to save their lives. The Honduran Army has not reported officially on the airspace violation.

NICARAGUA

PRESIDENT SOMOZA RESIGNS, FRANCISCO URCUYO ELECTED SUCCESSOR

NC170813 Paris AFP in English 0800 GMT 17 Jul 79 NC

[Text] Managua, July 17 (AFP)--Nicaraguan President Anastasio Somoza resigned today, it was officially announced here. The Nicaraguan Congress, which began meeting at 0700 GMT [0100 local] accepted General Somoza's resignation and elected as his successor Francisco Urcuyo, speaker (president) of the lower house of parliament, it was announced.

Urcuyo Tenure To Be Brief

PA171214 Paris AFP in English 1158 GMT 17 Jul 79 PA

[Text] Managua, July 17 (AFP)--The new president of Nicaragua, Francisco Urcuyo, succeeds General Anastasio Somoza without any solution being found to the five-week-old civil war. His main task will be to win a ceasefire between the National Guard and the Sandinista guerrillas and continue negotiations with the Sandinista-backed junta of reconstruction which considers itself the Nicaraguan provisional government.

Observers here give Mr Urcuyo, aged 55, speaker of the lower house of parliament until today's appointment, a very limited future. They consider his election as a necessary constitutional step toward handing over power to the junta. Mr Urcuyo, a member of General Somoza's Liberal Party, could not stay in power long with leaders of the previous administration leaving the country, the observers say.

The Congress, after waiting through a day of tension and rumours, finally met behind closed doors at 1 A.M. in a room of the Intercontinental Hotel to receive the general's letter of resignation, and elect his successor. The hotel, in a city under curfew, was heavily guarded by soldiers and only the members of Congress, including the Conservatives who had hitherto boycotted the sessions, and journalists were present.

Afterwards Mr Urcuyo said that negotiations with the junta were still continuing, as if to imply that he intended to stay in power at least for some time. The attitude of the National Guard is still unknown, however, at a time when they are still fighting the Sandinista guerrillas, when their leaders are in retreat or fleeing abroad and when General Somoza, the man for whom they fought, is no longer the boss.

SOMOZA FAILED IN ATTEMPT TO GET CENTRAL AMERICAN SUPPORT

PA161822 Paris AFP in Spanish 1732 GMT 16 Jul 79 PA

[Text] Managua, 16 July (AFP)--Gen Anastasio Somoza has failed in an attempt to have troops from Guatemala, El Salvador and Honduras penetrate into Nicaraguan territory to fight Sandinist guerrillas, a leader of the ruling Liberal Party revealed here today. Rumors of Somoza's trip to Guatemala on Friday were unofficially confirmed here, despite denials from official sources.

Somoza asked his three colleagues to apply the Central American Defense Council [CONDECA] treaty to fight Sandinist National Liberation Front guerrillas. CONDECA, an organization created in 1963 by Nicaraguan initiative, is comprised of the five Central American countries. Thus far, CONDECA has executed five joint maneuvers on Nicaraguan territory. Their purpose was antiguerrilla training. Last year, during the most recent of these maneuvers, Honduran and Nicaraguan troops carried out operations on the border and on the Atlantic coast and practiced the recovery of towns occupied by guerrillas.

PRESIDENT MEETS WITH NATIONAL GUARD HIGH COMMAND

PA170055 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 2358 GMT 16 Jul 79 PA

[Excerpt] Managua, 16 Jul (ACAN-EFE)--Gen Anastasio Somoza was in his office early Monday evening meeting with the high command of the Nicaraguan National Guard. Government officials made references to a thorough reorganization of the National Guard with extensive changes in the general staff, but no military source was willing to confirm details of the changes. Col Anastasio Somoza Portocarrero, son of the president, made indirect reference to these changes when he was queried about his future in the army. Somoza Portocarrero said that this does not depend on him but on "the new commander in chief of the army." President Somoza himself has been the director general of the National Guard up to now. Some 100 journalists are stationed outside the bunker, the president's fortified office, besieging officials and military chiefs who enter and leave in the midst of increasing rumors of General Somoza's departure from the country.

Removal of National Guard Officers

PA161548 San Jose Radio Reloj in Spanish 1443 GMT 16 Jul 79 PA

[Text] Managua--President Anastasio Somoza has removed National Guard officers with more than 30 years' service and may leave the country in a self-imposed exile on Tuesday, a well-informed government source reported. The officers' removal apparently was part of a concession to U.S. and other negotiators who have been actively working with Somoza and Sandinist guerrilla representatives in San Jose, Costa Rica.

The source, who refused to give his name, said he did not know why the officers were removed. However, another government source, who also asked not to be named, said that sometimes Somoza seems to be thinking about resigning and at other times seems determined to pursue the military struggle against the guerrillas. There are no hints that Somoza will leave soon. His intelligence service has been patroling the city in an apparent search for guerrillas.

In the residential section of Managua, an Associated Press reporter and photographer saw six soldiers taking handcuffed and blindfolded youths and shoving them into a vehicle to transport them to an army post. Handcuffed and blindfolded youths have been killed and their bodies left behind in a northern Managua section along Lake Managua.

The greatest concern of many Managua residents is that if Somoza resigns the army will vanish and looting and other disturbances may occur in the absence of civil officials. The Nicaraguan National Guard is a military force that also functions as a police force. However it has engaged only in military activities since the Sandinists announced their final offensive in April.

The officers' removal, the source added, will permit them to leave the country in view of the Sandinists' announcement that they will execute all officers found guilty of crimes. So far, there has been no indication that the Sandinists would immediately come to the city to maintain order if Somoza leaves.

Automatic weapons gunfire was heard in several parts of the capital last night. Ranking government officials and businessmen linked to Somoza remain calm at the Intercontinental Hotel and no special preparations for a speedy departure are noticeable. However, it is well known that several ranking government officials, including the Central Bank, Mortgage Bank and Social Welfare Administration directors, have left the country, according to reliable sources who asked to remain anonymous.

The sources added that dozens of suitcases belonging to government officials were sent to Managua airport yesterday to be loaded onto a flight today. Only one airline flies daily from Managua to El Salvador, Guatemala and Miami. Lanica Airline is the only one that is still providing service in Managua, but private planes have been allowed to take people out of the country.

Archbishop of Managua Miguel Obando y Bravo, Red Cross President Ismael Reyes and 20 other people depicted as moderate opposition leaders left for Caracas yesterday, a source reported. Radio Sandino monitored here last night said this was an unusual visit to Caracas since none of the travelers would speak on behalf of the Sandinist National Liberation Front.

Last night, Somoza met with his closest associates at his fortified home known as the bunker. The source added that Somoza's departure in the next 2 days would depend upon negotiations underway in San Jose, Costa Rica.

Kelly Confirms Removal of Officers

PA161955 Buenos Aires LATIN in Spanish 1858 GMT 16 Jul 79 PA

[By Jose Katigbak]

[Excerpts] Managua, 16 July (LATIN)--Key National Guard leaders whose support permitted President Anastasio Somoza to stay in power were retired today, thus fanning hope that an end to the civil war in Nicaragua is near. Max Kelly, General Somoza's private secretary, said officers with more than 30 years of active service have been asked to retire as part of a reorganization of the 15,000-man National Guard.

Kelly did not go into detail, but well informed military sources reported that about 100 officers, mostly generals and colonels, will retire. The sources added that the entire general staff has been replaced. The same sources said the retired officers include Chief of the General Staff Gen Armando Fernandez, Air Force Commander Gen Orlando Zeledon, Gen Gonzalo Evertz, Gen Gregorio Pichardo, Gen Gustavo Medina, Col Aquiles Aranda, Col Alberto Luna Mayorga, Col Alesio Gutierrez and Col Nicolas Valle Salinas.

Sources explained that Div Gen Jose Somoza, the president's brother, who commands the National Guard, will remain in his post for the interim until a cease-fire is achieved with the Sandinist guerrillas. Lt Col Anastasio Somoza III, son of the president and chief of the infantry school, will also remain temporarily in his present post.

Meanwhile, informed military sources said military and government supporters of General Somoza have begun to leave Nicaragua. Unconfirmed reports are circulating to the effect that a group of General Somoza's military colleagues bumped civilian passengers who had been waiting for days at the airport, taking their seats on a Lanica flight that left the country yesterday.

'Fired' Generals Seek Asylum

PA161859 Bogota Radio Santa Fe in Spanish 1810 GMT 16 Jul 79 PA

[Text] International news agencies have just issued a news bulletin about dictator Anastasio Somoza's departure from power. The report states:

Managua--Dictator Anastasio Somoza, the president of Nicaragua, has fired all his generals. Several of them--a majority--took refuge a few minutes ago in the Colombian Embassy in Nicaragua. At this moment, several international news agencies have dispatched reporters to downtown Managua, where an extraordinary meeting of Congress is taking place. All of the National Guard generals have been fired and most of them have taken refuge in the Colombian Embassy in that nation.

New Guard Staff Appointed

PA170139 Buenos Aires LATIN in Spanish 0054 GMT 17 Jul 79 PA

[Excerpts] Managua, 17 July (LATIN)--Nicaraguan President Gen Anastasio Somoza Debayle met this afternoon in his fortified office with the new members of the National Guard general staff, it was officially reported here. Meanwhile, official sources said that Somoza Debayle and his brother, Maj Gen Jose R. Somoza, are heading the list of high-ranking officers who were retired today because they had completed more than 30 years of service in the National Guard. The president's brother, chief director of the National Guard, today reportedly was to surrender the post which, for the first time since the creation of the armed force, will be occupied by an officer who is not a member of the Somoza family. The family has been in power in this Central American country for 46 years.

At the same time, military sources said unofficially to this agency that a firm candidate to replace the present chief director of the guard is Col Levy Sanchez, who was promoted to the rank of brigade general today. According to the same sources, the new general staff of the armed force is as follows: Col Federico Majia (chief of the general staff), Lt Col Rigoberto Ugarte (officer adjudant G-1), Col Carlos Eger (chief of the security office G-2), Col Alberto Moreno (chief of operations G-3), Lt Col Jose A. Matus (chief of supplies G-4) and Col Felix Sanchez (chief of legal and public relations office G-5).

The changes in the National Guard high command were explained by military sources as an attempt to rejuvenate the National Guard and to transfer command positions to officers who have responsibility over the combat forces. The former members of the guard's general staff were seen removing documents and other personal effects from their offices and, according to the sources, several of these officers will leave the country today or tomorrow. Meanwhile, it was reported that the president's son, Col Anastasio Somoza Portocarrero, is the only military member of the ruling family who was not retired, according to the official explanation, because he has not completed 30 years of service.

RECONSTRUCTION GOVERNMENT JUNTA TO BEGIN WORK IMMEDIATELY

PA171143 Paris AFP in English 1137 GMT 17 Jul 79 PA

[Excerpt] San Jose, Costa Rica, July 17 (AFT)--The Nicaraguan junta of the Government of National Reconstruction will start work immediately [after] it lands in Managua later today to repair the damage left by the departing President Somoza, junta leader Sergio Ramirez said here today.

He claimed that the junta would be recognised as the official government by 17 countries. The foreign ministers of nine of them--the Andean Pact nations of Colombia, Ecuador, Bolivia, Venezuela and Peru plus Mexico, Costa Rica, Panama and the Dominican Republic--will accompany the five junta members when they leave for Managua at 1000 loval time (1600 GMT) today.

Mr. Ramirez said that the law establishing the junta would become effective immediately so that the 16-member cabinet could be sworn in. He added, "We are living through a time of triumph and euphoria as well as understanding for the enemy. But the triumph is the Nicaraguan people's and I appeal to the United Nations and the Organisation of American States to provide immediate aid for national reconstruction."

Somoza's Extradition To Be Sought

PA171108 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1029 GMT 17 Jul 79 PA

[Text] San Jose, 17 July (ACAN-EFE)--The Nicaraguan Government of National Reconstruction will ask the U.S. Government to extradite former Nicaraguan President Gen Anastasio Somoza, who has reportedly left for Florida. Sergio Ramirez Mercado, member of the Nicaraguan opposition "Group of 12" and today a member of the new Nicaraguan government, said that the extradition process will be begun immediately so that Somoza will pay for the crimes committed against the people.

Shortly before a Managua government house source said that Somoza was meeting with his staff, but other reports from the United States, which the provisional junta of the Government of National Reconstruction does not doubt, indicate that the former president is already at a military base in Florida.

Ramirez indicated that the junta will be installed in Managua today. For this purpose, the Panamaian Government has made two helicopters available which will transport Sandinist guerrilla Daniel Ortega from Leon to Managua and Moises Hassan, dean of the Department of Letters of the Nicaraguan National University, from Masaya to Managua. Ramirez has resided in San Jose along with Violeta de Chamorro and Alfonso Robelo, who along with Ortega and Hassan make up the new Nicaraguan government.

'No Price on Somoza's Head'

PA171119 Paris AFP in English 1116 GMT 17 Jul 79 PA

[Text] Managua, 17 July (AFP)--Former President Anastasio Somoza will not have a price placed on his head, a member of Nicaragua's new ruling revolutionary junta said today.

Moises Hassan, 36, the only member of the junta at present in Nicaragua, told correspondents at Jinotepe, just south of here: "I don't think the government junta, once in power, will offer a reward for the murder of General Anastasio Somoza as the provisional Iranian government did in the shah's case." Mr Hassan said that a few individuals might well attempt to kill the general, but it would not be at the junta's instigation.

He added that the most important issue in coming negotiations would be the future of the National Guard, for years the Somoza regime's chief instrument of oppression. "Most of the (?guard) officers we consider to be murderers and thieves and we cannot pardon them," he said. "The guardsmen will have their place in the future army of Nicaragua, but we can only accept those who took no part in massacres and tortures. Our aim, once the junta is installed, will be to bring about the economic and political unity of the country, because we want to bring in a democracy that will guarantee the respect of the individual," he concluded. Mr Hassan was present throughout the battle for the capital before withdrawing with his guerrillas to Masaya, a few miles to the southwest, where he received a shrapnel wound in the side. Since then he has made his headquarters at Jinotepe, in the wide Sandinista-held zone to the south of Managua.

RECONSTRUCTION GOVERNMENT SPOKESMAN SAYS NO CABINET APPOINTED

PA161950 Panama City Televisora Nacional in Spanish 1845 GMT 16 Jul 79 PA

[Telephone report by Mario Velasquez from San Jose, Costa Rica--live]

[Excerpt] A number of contradictory reports and rumors are circulating regarding the Nicaraguan crisis. For instance, press headlines have played up what has been called the probable cabinet of the Government of National Reconstruction. This cabinet was thought to have been disclosed by sources close to the junta. However, a junta spokesman has denied the existence of this cabinet.

A report attributed to CBS said the junta of the Government of National Reconstruction met with Ambassador Bowdler yesterday, but Manuel Espinoza, junta spokesman, denied that such a meeting took place. Junta member Sergio Ramirez Mercado admitted that negotiations were underway and that there was almost an agreement between the junta and the United States, which had made all efforts to expand the junta, and also agreed on the future of the National Guard and its next director.

This briefly is the news climate here, with reports in one sense and denials in another. For instance, concerning the takeover of Masaya, which the National Guard has been claiming yesterday and today, we heard Managua Radio when we were in La Cruz, 20 km from the border, telling the people of Masaya to leave the city, because the National Guard was going to begin a tactical operation to recover the city, but it did not say it was being held by the National Guard.

INTERVIEW WITH RECONSTRUCTION GOVERNMENT FOREIGN MINISTER

FL162342 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 2300 GMT 16 Jul 79 FL

[Text] Western press agencies today insistently speculated on Nicaraguan dictator Anastasio Somoza leaving the country, linking the move to his imminent resignation. A few moments ago newsman Felix Morejon was able to establish telephonic contact with Miguel d'Escoto, foreign minister of the Government of National Reconstruction, who from the Costa Rican capital made the following statements:

[Begin D'Escoto recording] According to our information, Somoza still remains in the country. There are many rumors on this, but Somoza still has not left the country. Meanwhile we continue with the struggle. The Sandinist National Liberation Front continues advancing toward the capital and toward one or another of the important cities which still have not fallen but which will fall at any moment.

Nevertheless we are making contacts with countries in the American region from the north to the south of Latin America asking for hemispheric solidarity in accordance with the resolution of the 17th consultative OAS meeting so that, through true hemispheric solidarity, we will cut down the time left to the Somoza regime. Undoubtedly the Government of National Reconstruction will very soon be in Nicaraguan territory and Nicaraguans can have the peace which they have wished for and we can carry out the transformation process of the country which has been so disfigured and exploited by the Somoza regime. [end recording]

INTERVIEW WITH SANDINIST COMMANDER EDEN PASTORA

PA162046 San Jose Radio Reloj in Spanish 1913 GMT 16 Jul 79 PA

[Gina Valdes interview with Eden Pastora, "somewhere in Nicaragua"--recorded telephone relay]

[Text] [Pastora] The military situation in the country right now is that we have consolidated our positions and have the enemy surrounded. Somoza controls only the Esplanade and certain garrisons, and for this reason the National Guard is losing. Somoza is defeated militarily. He already admitted that. The United States also admitted it. Somoza is also defeated politically. I think Latin America and the rest of the world will recognize our government today. Immediately after that, the junta of the Government of National Reconstruction will go to Managua to assume power and the Sandinist National Liberation Front will take up the duties of a regular army with the full support of constitutional law. We have the moral right. We lacked the recognition of the democratic governments and peoples of Latin America and the world, but we are getting it today after an important meeting for the Nicaraguans which is being held in Venezuela.

[Question] When will Somoza leave?

[Answer] We expect that the gringos will take him away today. They created him and strengthened him and now they must take him away. We have been told that they are taking him to Hawaii. After a news conference Somoza will hold in Managua today, which will be carried over radio and television and in which he will bid farewell, he will leave, taking all his lackeys--those who are involved in the genocide of the Nicaraguan people--with him. It is painful to say this, but this genocide represents 25,000 dead.

[Question] When Somoza leaves and the National Guard has to put down its arms, there will be a difficult situation. How do you think the National Guard will react?

[Answer] The National Guard--without its general staff, commanders and chief, which led it in this terrible genocide which has shaken the whole world--will crumble. We, with our general staffs and the joint general staff which will arise from the merger of the general staffs, will take over the nation's [word indistinct] and will call the people, who support us and have faith in our organization and in the junta of the Government of National Reconstruction, to order. We hope this will not be as difficult as it seems.

[Question] Commander Eden Pastora, is a cease-fire in effect, or was there any negotiation for it to occur, or what is the situation regarding this? Is there any fighting or is there a cease-fire?

[Answer] We were fighting here on the southern front yesterday afternoon in almost hand-to-hand combat. We were throwing hand grenades at each other. There was fighting last night. There is still fighting this morning. We learned of their demoralization, and it seems that they do not have the same effectiveness they had before. For example, the Somozist aircraft did not visit us yesterday. We do not know if it was due to the bad weather yesterday. Today, when we have a clear sky, we have not seen any of those planes which have inflicted so much pain on the civilian population. This seems to stem from the fact that Somozism and its repressive forces are fleeing in disarray. We are always ready to attack those who attack us and kill those who kill us. This is the situation here on the southern front.

[Question] When Somoza leaves [words indistinct] will the FSLN persecute him all over the world until he is executed because of his responsibility in this genocide, which as you said is one of the worst in the world?

[Answer] We will devote ourselves to reconstructing Nicaragua. We cannot account for isolated deeds of families which are very resentful of this man, if one may call a monster a man. This is a clear reply. The FSLN will not take reprisals against those who [words indistinct] over the past 45 years.

Further on Pastora Interview

PA162311 San Jose Radio Reloj in Spanish 2039 GMT 16 Jul 79 PA

[Second part of Gina Valdes interview with Eden Pastora "somewhere in Nicaragua"--recorded telephone relay]

[Text] [Pastora] We shall dedicate ourselves to rebuilding, working and pacifying. We want to live in peace. After the long 45 years of [words indistinct] wants peace.

[Question] What do you think has been the determining factor in Somoza's [words indistinct]?

[Answer] The determining factor has been the 10,000 rifles in the arms of the Nicaraguan people. The firm determination of a people dedicated to having a free fatherland or death has also been significant. The fighting spirit of the Nicaraguan people has also been a determinating factor. The whole world has become aware of it. The desire for freedom, democracy and sovereignty has also been a factor. Above all, the determinating factor has been Sandino's ideal which the people of Nicaragua have assimilated and understood very well. This is why they are willing to die if necessary.

[Question] Will Sandinism be committed to any nation?

[Answer] Definitely to the peoples and governments which have helped us, such as the fraternal people of Costa Rica, Panama, Venezuela and Mexico. All Latin America has helped us, everybody helped us in one way or another. We are committed to these people and time will not erase our gratitude. We shall instill this gratitude among the Nicaraguan people and show the world that Nicaraguans are a grateful people.

[Question] Under what conditions will Anastasio Somoza leave Nicaragua?

[Answer] There are no conditions, just his exit. We did not set any conditions for the tyrant. We did not condition his surrender and escape with his lackeys. Nor did we accept any conditions. The conditions--that is, if we can call them conditions--were set during the negotiations with the North Americans to whom we showed what we are. We are not going to kill for the sake of killing. If we are going to establish democracy in Nicaragua, if we are going to rebuild Nicaragua and if they do not help us, we shall seek help from wherever it may come from. There is Latin America, Europe, the Arab world and the Socialist world. We shall accept aid wherever it may come from, that is if they do not help us. They helped Somoza destroy our cities, homes and lives. Now they have the moral obligation to help us rebuild all which they destroyed with their bombs, their machines, their deadly weapons. They did this for 50 years, and now they have the chance to rectify this old error.

[Question] Commander, the United States had said it would help rebuild Nicaragua if there was a moderate government. Are you familiar with this political term?

[Answer] We are going to make democracy. We are going to give...I mean we are going to recognize the people's right to be free. They shall then decide at the polls the type of government they want--radical, moderate, rightist or extreme rightist. Our duty is to fulfill the ideal for which so many Nicaraguans have died.

[Question] How are you going to [words indistinct]?

[Answer] Rebuilding Nicaragua is a very complex task. We should begin with the health sector. We are threatened with epidemics. Hatred may remain in the hearts of the Nicaraguans. I think that we should begin with the fields of health, education and housing. These are the first three fields in which we must work.

[Question] Commander, within less than a week two events took place in your country which the Nicaraguan police claimed had been carried out by Sandinists. [passage indistinct] What happens when things like these happen?

[Answer] I shall speak with the authority which full knowledge of the two cases gives me. The FSLN had no participation in either one. These things happen in wartime, but these occurred specifically in my area. It was a brutal murder. We captured them and were going to execute them here in Nicaraguan territory. It was the minister who made us understand that the crime had been committed in Costa Rica and that we owed the Costa Rican people an explanation. Evidencing our maturity, we showed them the three authors of the horrible crime in Liberia. I think that with this the Costa Rican people can have a clear awareness of our maturity. We shall always act with the same maturity in all cases. We shall be inflexible toward crime. We have to eradicate from Nicaragua all the dregs which come with war.

ADN INTERVIEWS PROVISIONAL GOVERNMENT OFFICIAL

LD151515 East Berlin ADN International Service in German 0736 GMT 15 Jul 79 LD

[By ADN special correspondent Ulrich Kohls]

[Excerpt] San Jose (ADN correspondent)--"After the overthrow of Somoza we will build in Nicaragua a democratic government with the broad participation of all strata of society."

"The democracy which we are striving for and which has not existed in Nicaragua for the past 150 years is to safeguard all the popular forces which have supported the heroic fight against the Somoza dictatorship and their participation in the political life of the country, to which they are entitled." This was stated by Sergio Ramirez, leading member of the Government of National Reconstruction of Nicaragua, in an interview with the ADN correspondent in San Jose.

Ramirez continued: "As soon as we have established ourselves as the legal government in Nicaragua--and we are convinced that this will be very soon--we will order an immediate absolute truce and order the Somoza National Guard to withdraw to their barracks." The fighters of the FSLN will see to it that the truce is observed and we will organize a new national army," the 37 year-old lawyer from Masaya Province said. A representative of the opposition Group of 12, he is a member of the provisional government. "The next step will be the nationalization of the entire Somoza family's property, which was amassed through bloody oppression of the people over nearly 50 years, suspending the dictator's constitution and the dissolution of congress. Next we will promulgate a provisional basic law which guarantees the rights of all citizens and protects the political organization of the government."

"We will pursue a foreign policy of nonalinement and intend to take part in the impending conference of nonalined states in Havana in September. Diplomatic relations will be established with all democratic countries, and of course, with all socialist states."

Referring to the difficult economic and social problems in Nicaragua, Sergio Ramirez said: "We will organize a broad national campaign to gradually surmount the economic bankruptcy of our country and expect that our people will support this as actively as they have supported the armed liberation struggle. We also expect solid support from all progressive forces in the world."

FAO LEADERS TO GO TO VENEZUELA WITH OBANDO

PA152142 Paris AFP in Spanish 2047 GMT 15 Jul 79 PA

[By Horacio Ruiz]

[Excerpt] Managua, 15 Jul (AFP)--Twelve leaders of the Broad Opposition Front (FAO) announced unexpectedly today that they will go to Venezuela together with the archbishop of Managua and Red Cross President Ismael Reyes. A Venezuelan Air Force plane has arrived in Managua to pick up FAO leaders Rafael Cordova, Jaime Chamorro, Roger Miranda, Donald Lacayo, Luis Sanchez, Julio Aviles, Eduardo Rivas and others. Msgr Miguel Obando, archbishop of Managua, was also preparing to go.

It has been reported that the group is making the trip at the invitation of Venezuelan President Luis Herrera Campins. They have been invited to participate in the meeting that the Nicaraguan opposition has organized between the Andean Pact foreign ministers and the junta of the Government of National Reconstruction. It has also been reported that Venezuelan Foreign Minister Jose Alberto Zambrano is expected in Managua tomorrow, Monday, to meet with President Anastasio Somoza.

It is know that U.S. Ambassador to Managua Lawrence Pezzullo met this morning with Somoza and with Nicaraguan Foreign Minister Julio Quintana. Archbishop Obando will go to Venezuela as president of the National Committee of Reflection [Comite Nacional de Refelexion], which seeks a peaceful solution to the Nicaraguan crisis.

RADIO SANDINO DENOUNCES 'SELLOUT' IN CARACAS

PA160448 Radio Sandino (Clandestine) in Spanish to Nicaragua 0400 GMT 16 Jul 79 PA

[Text] Radio Sandino, official voice of the Sandinist National Liberation Front and of all our free people, has received the following denunciation which, upon verification by our intelligence services, it urgently broadcasts to our people:

A small group of troublemakers is meeting secretly in Caracas for unknown political purposes. However, these purposes can be deduced logically from the suspicious circumstances under which the meeting is being held. These disruptive elements, who are acting on their own outside our junta of the Government of National Reconstruction and, of course, behind the people's backs, are Jose Esteban Gonzalez (Rapacholli), Javier Zavala Cuadra and Luis Sanchez (Sancho).

Radio Sandino condemns the regrettable attitude of these isolated elements who will achieve nothing but revealing themselves to our people for what they really are--pitiful persons disposed toward selling out the fatherland. We remind them of the wise and prophetic words of our general of freemen. We want to prove to pessimists that patriotism is not invoked to obtain privileges or public posts; it is demonstrated by tangible actions, offering one's life to defend the fatherland's sovereignty because it is better to die than to accept the humiliating freedom of the slave.

Long Live Our Only Free People's Government, the Government of National Reconstruction! Long Live the FSLN! Long Live Free Nicaragua! Not to Sell Out Fascism! No to Yankee Maneuvers! Free Fatherland or Death!

GUARD, FSLN CONTINUE FIGHTING AMID RUMORS OR RESIGNATION

PA162030 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1538 GMT 16 Jul 79 PA

[Text] Penas Blancas (Costa Rican-Nicaraguan border), 16 Jul (ACAN-EFE)--Despite the growing rumors about Gen Anastasio Somoza's resignation and departure today or tomorrow, the National Guard and the Sandinists [FSLN] have remained locked in fierce combat in the southern region, on the Costa Rican border and in Masaya, 30 km from Managua. Both sides have stepped up their actions, apparently based on their respective positions in the negotiations, which moved yesterday to the Venezuelan capital.

Nicaraguan opposition members, neutral persons and church representatives are meeting in Caracas with President Luis Herrera Campins and with the Andean foreign ministers. Meanwhile, "Task Force Bravo" of the Somozist guard and the Sandinist "Gaspar Garcia Laviana" Batallion clashed again in Rivas Department. The rebels as yet have not been able to break through the barrier preventing them from reaching the capital of the province, where they plan to set up their government junta.

Dozens of wounded guerrillas have crossed the border in the past few hours to hospitals on the Costa Rican side. In Masaya it was reported that the Somozist troops were relatively successful in setting up barriers between the rebel defenses in sectors like Monimbo.

There were no reports of fighting in the northwestern region, where important cities such as Leon and Matagalpa have been under Sandinist control for more than a month and where revolutionary municipal governments have been set up.

In San Jose, Costa Rica, Manuel Espinoza, spokesman for the junta of the Sandinists, told ACAN-EFE that the new authorities hope to enter Nicaragua early this week. Meanwhile, U.S. sources in Managua and Washington state that Somoza will address the country today on radio and television to announce his resignation. Everyone agrees that General Somoza will leave for the United States, and most sources say it will be for Miami, Florida. Somoza will be able to live easily in the United States, where his wife, Hope Portocarrero, has been living for several years.

Diplomatic sources in San Jose said the U.S. State Department promised Somoza not to allow his extradition in the event the new Nicaraguan authorities request it.

In Managua, where the only information available is that released by the government and where foreign newsmen are subject to censorship, most Nicaraguans are unaware of the international moves which may end in a few hours with the departure of President Somoza. It has been denied time and again that the president will resign. The acceptance of such a proposal would lead immediately to the toppling of the guard, according to Costa Rican military experts here.

Sandinist Forces Seize Esteli

PA170148 San Jose Radio Reloj in Spanish 2236 GMT 16 Jul 79 PA

[Text] The Sandinist National Liberation Front has total control of Esteli Department. We have just received a report that the National Guard garrison in Esteli fell to the Sandinist forces. We reported last night that the National Guard garrison was still resisting, but the garrison surrendered this afternoon. Esteli is an important city in the north and, like Matagalpa, is a gateway to Segovia, the region where Gen Augusto Cesar Sandino operated.

Reports of Bloody Fighting

PA162020 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1910 GMT 16 Jul 79 PA

[Text] San Jose, 16 Jul (ACAN-EFE)--The Sandinist National Liberation Front [FSLN] has reported the continuation of bloody fighting in Nicaragua and the downing of two airplanes and a helicopter of Gen Anastasio Somoza's forces. Although there has been no report of casualties, the FSLN communique claims that 20 members of the Nicaraguan National Guard were killed when a military convoy was attacked in the city of Rivas, where heavy fighting has been underway for more than a month. That city has been mentioned as the provisional seat of the Government of National Reconstruction proclaimed on 16 June by the guerrillas.

The guerrillas say that in the Monte Redondo and Belem sectors near Rivas fierce fighting took place during the past few hours and that an army officer named Siles was killed. Many guardsmen were killed or wounded, according to a rebel war communique. In Matagalpa a C-47, which harassed that northern city which has been occupied by the rebels for several weeks, was downed. Another aircraft was downed over Nandaime and plunged into Cocibolca Lake.

The communique reports that fighting is continuing between Sandinists and army troops in Managua. In Monsignor Lezcano and Las Americas districts in the capital several operations permitted the "recovery" of weapons for the arsenals of the people's brigades. According to rebel reports, these brigades currently control a large part of Managua.

Meanwhile, it was affirmed that the guerrillas have total control of Carazo Department after taking over the township of Esquinas, which provides access from the Pan-American Highway to all the cities of that province. The Sandinists report that Masaya is still under their control despite air and ground harrassment by General Somoza's forces. Concluding, the report indicates that (?after being repelled while making) an air attack on the border region of Guasaule (on the Honduran border), an armed helicopter was downed and fell on Honduran (?territory).

LATE REPORT: SOMOZA LEAVES FOR FLORIDA; RADIO SILENT

PA171335 Paris AFP in Spanish 1318 GMT 17 Jul 79 PA

[Text] Managua, 17 Jul (AFP)--Former Nicaraguan President Anastasio Somoza left this capital today at 0510 (1110 GMT), and shortly afterward an undetermined number of his colleagues left aboard another aircraft. The takeoff of his private Lear jet from Las Mercedes International Airport was observed by several persons.

Apparently the aircraft was on its way to Homestead Air Force Base in Florida.

Minutes later another aircraft departed, a Boeing 727 of Lanica Airline (owned by the Somoza family) carrying an undetermined number of colleagues and Somozist political leaders, apparently for the same destination. The official Nicaraguan radio has not yet reported General Somoza's departure or his resignation and his replacement by Dr Francisco Urcuyo.

HYDRAULIC PROJECTS COOPERATION AGREEMENT SIGNED WITH USSR

FL161043 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1000 GMT 16 Jul 79 FL

[Text] Cuba and the Soviet Union have signed a cooperation agreement in Moscow for the development of hydraulic projects in both countries. Engineer (Orestes Gainza), director of construction for Engineering Works Enterprise Number 14 of Holguin Province, signed the document on behalf of the Cuban Construction Ministry in the presence of Cuban engineer (Federio Gil).

MENGISTU HAILS CUBAN SOLDIERS AT AWARD CEREMONY

FL131753 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1700 GMT 13 Jul 79 FL

[Text] Mengistu Haile Mariam, chairman of the Ethiopian Provisional Military Administrative Council, has asserted that his country's revolutionary struggle confirms that those who fight for equality and socialism are not alone politically or militarily. At a ceremony held in the region of Harar to decorate members of the Cuban Revolutionary Armed Forces who participated in the Ethiopian revolutionary war, Mengistu stressed that it is the duty of every revolutionary to make the revolution occur and ascertain its victorious march. The maximum Ethiopian leader pointed out that his people are proud to decorate the Cuban combatants as testimony of their outstanding feeling of revolutionary internationalism. He recalled that the Cubans marched on the side of the Ethiopian Army during the most difficult moments. The glorious pages written with the blood of Cuban combatants, Mengistu said, gives them the right to constitute a real force in history and in the contribution to the struggle of oppressed peoples.

Garcia Frias Meets With Mengistu

FL141454 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1400 GMT 14 Jul 79 FL

[Text] Addis Ababa--Ethiopian chief of state Mengistu Haile Mariam has received Guillermo Garcia Frias, vice president of the Cuban Councils of State and Ministers, to discuss the nonalined countries sixth summit conference that will be held in Havana in September. The Ethiopian and Cuban leaders were of the opinion that this chiefs of state and government conference will contribute to the strengthening of unity, solidarity and cooperation among the nonlined countries. Mengistu said Ethiopia will make efforts so that the conference will have positive results.

Garcia Frias, who also is a member of the Cuban party Politburo, last night attended an official dinner hosted by the Ethiopian Government and presided over by Berhanu Baye, member of the Ethiopian Provisional Military Administrative Council. Garcia Frias spoke briefly to express gratitude for the welcome he has been given. He also recalled how the nonalined countries movement emerged. The Cuban leader said: Eighteen years later, we have the honor of hosting the great event of the movement which is the world's largest political movement and is making an important contribution to the cause of peace, independence and progress. At the same time, the nonalined movement is reaffirming the essential principles under which it emerged--the struggle against imperialism, colonialism, neocolonialism and racism. Lastly, Garcia Frias referred to the friendship between Cuba and Ethiopia saying such friendship once again has been reaffirmed during my visit.

GUINEA-BISSAU OFFICIAL STRESSES CUBAN ASSISTANCE

FL141634 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 14 Jul 79 FL

[Text] Bissau--Filinto Vas Martins, commissioner of national education, has declared that Guinea-Bissau and Cuba are willing to develop cooperation in the fields of education, agriculture and fisheries. Vas Martins made the statement upon his return from Havana where he led his country's delegation to the meeting of the Guinean-Cuban joint commission for cooperation.

The agreement that Cuba continue sending technicians to Guinea-Bissau, he said, is a very important decision. A group of Cuban doctors and construction workers currently is working successfully in that country. Cuba will also assist in the construction of a network of technical-professional schools.

FERNANDEZ MEETS WITH PRESIDENT OF BENIN

FL132124 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 2112 GMT 13 Jul 79 FL

[Text] Mathieu Kerekou, president of Benin, has received Jose Ramon Fernandez, vice president of the Cuban Council of Ministers. The Cuban official delivered to Kerekou a personal message from Fidel Castro, president of the Cuban Councils of State and Ministers, concerning the nonalined countries sixth summit conference. The two officials exchanged views on the international situation and the nonalined countries movement, which will hold its summit conference in Havana in September. Martin Dohou Azonhiho, Giriguissou Gado and Leopold Ahoueya, members of the Politburo of the People's Revolutionary Party of Benin, participated in the meeting. Vice Foreign Minister Jose Fernandez Cossio and Cuban Ambassador to Benin Raul [as heard] Govea Salles participated for the Cuban side.

RODRIGUEZ ENDS VISIT TO SRI LANKA

FL161611 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1604 GMT 16 Jul 79 FL

[Text] Carlos Rafael Rodriguez, vice president of the Cuban Councils of State and Ministers, today concluded a visit to Colombo, Sri Lanka, after meeting with Sri Lanka's Foreign Minister Abdul Hameed. With that meeting, the Cuban leader completed scheduled talks with Sri Lanka officials in connection with the nonalined countries sixth summit conference that will be held in Havana in September. Carlos Rafael Rodriguez also met with President of Sri Lanka Junius Richard Jayewardene and Prime Minister Ranasinghe Premadasa, according to a PRENSA LATINA report.

Arrives in Iraq

FL170241 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 2300 GMT 16 Jul 79 FL

[Text] Carlos Rafael Rodriguez, Cuban vice president of the Councils of State and Ministers, today arrived in Baghdad, Iraq to hold a working meeting with the Iraqi leaders on the sixth summit of the nonalined countries. Carlos Rafael Rodriguez, who is also a member of the PCC Politburo, arrived in Iraq from Sri Lanka after having visited the USSR, Yugoslavia and India. In all of the countries visited, the Cuban vice president was received with great shows of friendship and interest in the upcoming nonalined summit conference which will be held in Havana in September 1979.

On his travel from Sri Lanka to Iraq, the Cuban leader made a stopover in Qatar where he was received by Suhaym ibn Hamad Al Thani, foreign minister of that country, and was declared a guest of honor. Carlos Rafael Rodriguez' visit to Iraq coincides with that country's festivities honoring the 11th anniversary of the 17 July revolution.

BRAVO LEAVES FOR LAOS, REPORTS ON TALKS IN VIETNAM

FL141814 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1803 GMT 14 Jul 79 FL

[Text] A Cuban Government delegation headed by Flavio Bravo, vice president of the Council of Ministers, today left for the Laos People's Democratic Republic following an official visit to Vietnam. Vietnamese Premier Pham Van Dong received the Cuban delegation during its stay in that Asian country and exchanged views with Flavio Bravo on the nonalined countries movement and other problems of interest. The Vietnamese leader asserted that his country will do everything possible to contribute to the success of the nonalined countries sixth summit conference and frustrate the maneuvers and activities of imperialism and international reaction to sabotage the nonalined countries movement. For his part, Flavio Bravo told PRENSA LATINA that the talks were very fruitful and friendly and that both sides agreed on the matters discussed.

CONSULAR, TRADE RELATIONS RESTABLISHED WITH ECUADOR

FL161801 Havana Domestic Television Service in Spanish 1700 GMT 16 Jul 79 FL

[Text] The governments of the Republic of Ecuador and the Republic of Cuba have decided to reestablish their consular and trade relations beginning 16 July 1979 following the official and trade talks and based on the common respect for the principles of sovereignty, territorial integrity, self-determination, coexistence between states of different social regimes and nonintervention in internal and external affairs of states. According to a note issued by the Republic of Cuba Foreign Ministry the two governments will grant the necessary facilities to assure as soon as possible the establishment of consular and trade offices in the cities with the characteristics of each office to be agreed to by the foreign ministries of the two countries.

NATIONAL ASSEMBLY PRESIDENT LEAVES JAMAICA FOR GUYANA

FL141829 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1806 GMT 14 Jul 79 FL

[Text] Cuban Council of State Vice President Blas Roca today left for Guyana after ending an official 2-day visit to Jamaica. Roca, who also is president of the Cuban National People's Government Assembly, was seen off at Kingston's air terminal by National Security Minister Dudley Thompson. During their stay in Jamaica, Blas Roca and his delegation held talks with Prime Minister Michael Manley and Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Percival James Patterson. The topics covered in these talks included the forthcoming nonalined countries sixth summit conference that will be held in Havana City in September.

Blas Roca, Guyana Foreign Minister Hold Talks

FL161036 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1000 GMT 16 Jul 79 FL

[Text] Cuban Council of State Vice President Blas Roca Calderio met on Sunday in Georgetown, Guyana, with Rashleigh Jackson, foreign minister of that South American country. It was learned that their talks dealt with topics related to the nonalined countries sixth summit conference that will be held in Havana in September.

MPSP CONDEMNS MILITARY OCCUPATION OF CYPRUS

FL141824 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1804 GMT 14 Jul 79 FL

[Text] The Cuban Movement for Peace and Sovereignty of Peoples [MPSP] has issued a communique on the occasion of the world week of solidarity with Cyprus to be observed from 15 to 21 July. The first of the points in the communique states that solidarity with Cyprus can be practiced only by condemning the foreign military occupation that is taking place despite resolutions of the United Nations and nonalined countries. The second point notes that the foreign military occupation precludes a solution of internal problems and violates the independence and sovereignty of the Cypriot people. Lastly, the communique adds that a solution to the Cypriot problems can only be found through an immediate and unconditional withdrawal of the foreign military forces and any other foreign presence from Cypriot territory.

HART CHAIRS CARIFESTA ORGANIZING COMMITTEE MEETING

FL161625 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 16 Jul 79 FL

[Text] Armando Hart, member of the PCC Politburo and minister of culture, has chaired a meeting of the committee responsible for organizing the 1979 Caribbean Arts Festival--Carifesta 79. The meeting was held at the Havana City headquarters of the National Union of Writers and Artists of Cuba. Vice Minister of Culture Julio Garcia Espinoza reported that 24 countries, including Cuba, will participate in Carifesta with 133 artistic groups and soloists, 10 dance groups, 14 choral music groups, 53 folkloric groups and 46 music and song groups. There will be approximately 159 activities at the rate of 30 daily. It also was announced that the cities of Matanzas and Santiago de Cuba will host Carifesta activities.

Former Dominican President Arrives

FL141211 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1000 GMT 14 Jul 79 FL

[Text] Juan Bosch, former president of the Dominican Republic and an author, has arrived in Havana as a guest of honor of the 1979 Caribbean Arts Festival--Carifesta 79. Nicolas Guillen, member of the PCC Central Committee and president of the National Union of Writers and Artists of Cuba, received the Dominican politician at the air terminal. Guillen also received at the air terminal Dominican poet (Pedro Mire) and the official delegation to Carifesta led by writer and Education Under Secretary Marcio Veloz Maggiolo. The Dominican delegation to Carifesta 79 consists of 60 officials and artists.

ECUADOR'S ROLDOS VIEWS NICARAGUAN SITUATION, OPEC

PA161509 Buenos Aires LATIN in Spanish 0614 GMT 16 Jul 79 PA

[Text] Santo Domingo, 16 Jul (LATIN)--Ecuadorean President-elect Jaime Roldos has said here that the Nicaraguan conflict must be solved by the Nicaraguans without the interference of other nations. Roldos, who arrived in Santo Domingo on Saturday in the third stage of a tour of six countries, said that the situation in Nicaragua is one of the most serious conflicts ever experienced by Latin America and that it is getting increasingly worse.

In a news conference held at a local hotel, Roldos reiterated that Nicaragua must freely determine its destiny and that no country should interfere in the conflict. He said that as the crisis worsens, the Nicaraguans have fewer possibilities of solving their problems by themselves. Roldos, who will take office in Ecuador on 10 August, accused Anastasio Somoza's regime of leading the Nicaraguan people to destruction by bombing the cities. I am aware that the Nicaraguan situation is a difficult one to solve within a short period of time because of the many contradictions in that country, he added.

He noted that he supports the Sandinist position in the Nicaraguan crisis and demanded a prompt solution to the conflict by the Nicaraguan people themselves. He said that he will hold talks with OPEC representatives when he takes office in order to seek a balance in OPEC's relations with the less developed countries which import oil. Roldos admitted that the constant oil price increases may weaken the economy of those countries.

The Ecuadorean president-elect arrived in Santo Domingo on Saturday and was greeted by President Antonio Guzman at the airport. Later, the two presidents held a meeting. Guzman also held a reception at the National Palace. Roldos was declared a distinguished guest by the mayor's office. Mayor Pedro Franco Badia hosted a luncheon to honor Roldos. After holding a news conference yesterday, Roldos participated in a rally organized by the Dominican Revolutionary Party and held at the party's national headquarters. Roldos will leave for the United States today.

SWEDEN PLEDGES AID TO DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM

FL130110 Santo Domingo International Service in Spanish 2330 GMT 12 Jul 79 FL

[Text] The Swedish Government will support completely the development plans undertaken in this country by the government of President Antonio Guzman Fernandez. Swedish deputy (David Vigma) made this statement last night at the conclusion of a meeting with the president at the head of a Swedish delegation which arrived in Santo Domingo yesterday morning. The official delegation informed President Guzman Fernandez that the Swedish Government will soon develop cooperation programs with the Dominican Republic. The delegation that visited the Dominican president included the Swedish ministers of education for foreign affairs and foreign relations. [positions as heard, names indistinct]

CARIBBEAN LEADERS MEET IN GRENADA

FL161201 Kingston Domestic Service in English 1130 GMT 16 Jul 79 FL

[Text] Dominican leader Oliver Seraphine has declared that the time has come for the Caribbean to be united so that when the region sits at international forums it can do so with one word, one vision and one (speaker) in mind. Mr Seraphine [words indistinct] in Grenada last night following a mini-summit between himself, Grenada's Prime Minister Maurice Bishop and St Lucian Prime Minister Allan Louisy. He said the three leaders had decided that the time has come to forge a new path forward based on democratization and mass participation, and he added that agreements in principle had also been reached whereby the people from Grenada, Dominica and St Lucia will no longer need a passport to travel to the three CARICOM states.

GRENADA

SUSPECTS IN RECRUITMENT OF MERCENARIES ARRESTED

FL161025 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1000 GMT 16 Jul 79 FL

[Text] Grenadian authorities on Sunday arrested five suspects under charges of serving as liaison for the recruitment of mercenaries for former Prime Minister Eric Gairy. More than a month ago Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Finance Bernard Coard charged in Kingston, Jamaica, that Gairy was going to various U.S. states in search of mercenaries with which he would try to invade the small Antillean Island of Grenada.

Security Measures Imposed

PA170415 Paris AFP in English 0349 GMT 17 Jul 79 PA

[Text] St George's, Grenada, July 16 (AFP)--Grenada imposed strict security measures today and put military units on alert following the arrest of five people in connection with the alleged recruitment of foreign mercenaries to overthrow the left-wing government of Prime Minister Maurice Bishop. The five, whose names were not revealed, were accused of acting on behalf of the Caribbean island's former prime minister, Sir Eric Gairy, now in the United States, who was ousted in a coup 4 months ago.

TECHNICAL, ECONOMIC AGREEMENT SIGNED WITH CUBA

FL132250 Bridgetown ADVOCATE-NEWS in English 10 Jul 79 p 1 FL

[Text] St. George's, Grenada, Monday, (CANA)--The first technical and economic agreement between the Government of Cuba and the Maurice Bishop administration was signed in St. George's this morning. The two-year agreement was signed by Sergio Mendez, the vice director of CUBATECHNICA and Jerome Jerome, assistant secretary in Grenada's Planning Development and Training Department of the Ministry of Finance, Trade and Industry and Planning. Mr. Jerome was acting for the permanent secretary, Miss Glorie Payne, who is out of Grenada on government business.

Minister of Education George Louison also represented the Grenada Government at the signing. He said Grenadians felt very deeply about the friendship developed between Grenada and Cuba. Cuba was one of the first countries to recognise the new administration and, according to Mr. Louison, has been the closest to Grenada in assistance and in helping to consolidate the gains of the March 13th revolution that toppled the government of former Prime Minister Sir Eric Gairy.

He said the agreement was in keeping with the spirit of friendship and cooperation and in the spirit of struggle by Third World countries to improve their quality of life. The Cuban charge d'affairs, Julien Rizo, said the agreement will formalise and institutionalise the way through which technical and economic assistance is going to be channelled to Grenada from Cuba.

"I think that this is a new step in the relationship between the two countries and governments and provides the opportunity for the agreement to work," said Senor Rizo. "We intend to work as close as possible together in a way to establish the mechanics, in a way to establish the links through which concrete economic assistance could be developed between the two governments." "Our government is fulfilling its duty to assist developing countries to achieve better living standards for their peoples and we believe that it is part of our responsibility, we believe that it is part of our duty in keeping with Cuba's internationalist principle." The agreement can be cancelled after six months if any party is not satisfied with its workings and there is an option for renewal after the first two years. Renewal could be for a further two or more years.

ST LUCIA

PRIME MINISTER LOUISY PROMISES 'OPEN GOVERNMENT'

FL132300 Bridgetown ADVOCATE-NEWS in English 10 Jul 79 p 1 FL

[Text] Castries, St. Lucia, Monday (CANA)--St. Lucia's new Prime Minister Allan Louisy, in his first official address since his Labour Party's general election victory a week ago last night promised St. Lucians "open government" and urged them to help run the country. Speaking on radio and television, Mr Louisy said his government intended launching "a new St. Lucia" with the relieving of unemployment and the improvement of the living standards of persons in the lower income group as its priorities.

Mr Louisy's party toppled the administration of former Prime Minister John Compton last Monday capturing 12 of the 17 House of Assembly seats inan election result made most decisive by the massive turn-out of disenchanted young people at the polls. The new prime minister was critical of the Compton government which he said had neglected the masses and relegated St. Lucians to being second class citizens in their own country.

He pointed to unemployment, inflation and rising prices as some of St. Lucia's main problems but added that while these were common to all Western countries, St. Lucia seemed to be one of the few countries where "nothing of significance" was being done to cope with them. Said the retired Caribbean jurist: "My party has already laid down the groundwork for a massive programme of reorganisation and reconstruction. We have set out the broad outlines of this programme in our manifest. Our first task will be to restore their rightful status to the people of St. Lucia--that of undisputed controllers of the island."

Urging public assistance in conducting the affairs of government, the prime minister added "everyone must feel free to advise and assist my government at all times. Let us have your opinions and suggestions on any matter, guide us on the small things and on the big things. If it advances St. Lucia one millimeter let us have it." Mr Louisy said that every St. Lucian was a part of his government and had a contribution to the task of governing the country. He conceded that Labour had taken office at a time of grave economic and social crisis and found itself having to solve not only the problems of the present but also to wipe out the problems which years of neglect had created.

He accused the Compton government during its 15 years in office of concentrating its efforts and the money of St. Lucia on "exhorbitantly high cost infrastructural development to the exclusion and neglect of the development of the productive sectors of the economy." Avenues of employment he added had not been explored to any extent commensurate with the needs of the country. Agriculture had been neglected and little effort was made in expanding the productive sector or to enforce restraint in the area of prices. He listed the immediate priorities of the new government: "We must get our people off the streets and into jobs to produce the things we need, to expand our export sector and earn the foreign exchange to purchase those things we cannot produce."

As part of its plans for open government the prime minister said his government intended to hold Cabinet and House of Assembly meetings in the towns of Vieux Fort and Soufriere, "from time to time as circumstances permit." Such meetings have always been held in Castries. He said: "We shall make ourselves available to the people at all times. We intend to bring government to the people and to integrate it into the lives of the people. Never again must the government be allowed to keep itself aloof and remote from the people and develop attitudes in isolation from the people which can only lead to bad government and oppression of the people."

While his government pledged itself to promote the well being of every sector of the population, Mr Louisy said it nevertheless had a "special duty" to the unemployed and those in the lower income group. He said::"We must all work particularly hard to relieve their suffering and distress. We cannot survive as a nation or as a people while the masses of our people live in squalor and destitution. Their misery and suffering cry out for relief, and as quickly as possible my government considers the improvement of their lot to be first charge on the national conscience and the national pocket."

Mr.Louisy added that the new government had already started to take steps to right "some of the injustices of the past." He announced that moves were already underway to ensure that teachers and civil servants received pay for the 59 days they stayed away from their jobs earlier in the year to press their demands for settlment of a pay dispute. The Compton administration had up to the elections refused their claims for strike pay. Mr Louisy promised to "wipe injustices and oppression off the fact of St. Lucia" and said that at an early date legislation passed by the previous government which was "repressive and offensive" to the people of St. Lucia would be looked at.

SURINAM

SURINAM JOINS NONALINED MOVEMENT

LD161400 Belgrade TANJUG in English 1101 GMT 16 Jul 79 LD

[Text] Paramaraibo, July 16 (SNA)--Surinam will join the non-aligned movement in September this year, it was learned from an official government bulletin here. Apart from Surinam, Grenada, Bolivia, Iran and Pakistan will also be (?present) during the summit conference in Havana. A Cuban delegation led by Finance Minister Francisco Garcia Valls is currently visiting Surinam to hand an invitation to Prime Minister Henck Arron to attend the summit.

ECUADOR

ASSAD BUCARAM REELECTED PRESIDENT OF CFP

PA151932 Paris AFP in Spanish 1822 GMT 15 Jul 79 PA

[Text] Guayaquil, Ecuador, 15 Jul (AFP)--A national assembly of the Concentration of Popular Forces (CFP) has reelected Assad Bucaram as its president, giving him broad support for his political leadership.

The convention, which was held behind closed doors here on Saturday, gave a vote of confidence to Bucaram and accepted the political pact concluded between the CFP and the Conservative Party to act jointly at the legislative level. The two parties signed the pact recently to permit Assad Bucaram to become president of the Congress and Rafael Armijos, director of the Conservative Party, to become vice president.

The entire convention was devoted to a discussion of the political leadership of Assad Bucaram. The participants gave him a vote of confidence for having led the party with great sagacity and proven loyalty to the party's principles, a press communique said. The National Chamber of Representatives (legislative branch) will open on 10 August after the inauguration of Jaime Roldos, who was elected president in the April elections.

CONSULAR, TRADE RELATIONS TO BE REESTABLISHED WITH CUBA

PA161720 Paris AFP in Spanish 1710 GMT 16 Jul 79 PA

[Text] Quito, 16 Jul (AFP)--Ecuador and Cuba have decided to reestablish their consular and commercial relations, the Ecuadorean Foreign Ministry announced here today.

MEXICO

NATION TO SELL NATURAL GAS AT WORLD MARKET PRICES

PA131449 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0859 GMT 13 Jul 79 PA

[Text] Mexico City, 13 Jul (EFE)--Mexico will not sell gas at less than $2.60 per thousand cubic feet, and if fuel prices go up in the world market, it will also raise its prices. This announcement was made here on Thursday by a representative of the state-owned Mexican Petroleum, who also confirmed that negotiations for U.S. gas purchases have been resumed. He added that the presidential talks currently underway will almost surely conclude with Mexican President Jose Lopez Portillo's visit to Washington in September, when he wil meet with U.S. President Jimmy Carter.

The spokesman also explained that certain sales contract clauses are being modified during the present negotiations and that any agreement reached will be signed by the presidents themselves.

PARAGUAY

JUDGE ORDERS PREVENTIVE CUSTODY FOR MELGAREJO

PY112121 Asuncion ABC COLOR in Spanish 11 Jul 79 p 13 PY

[Excerpt] Judge Antonio Escobar Cantero reduced to preventive custody the arrest of Mario M. Melgarejo, who is being tried for the alleged crime of insurrection and violation of Law 209, "Defense of Public Peace and Freedom of the Persons." The judge also attached defendant's assets to the amount of 300,000 guaranies. The defense appealed and claimed nullity of the court ruling.